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Friday April 5 1996 Densberk DK 15 Dubel D 8 50 Egypt EC 6 50



Music and books for the holiday weekend

Biggeral

the lime

Plus: Samuel Beckett, Milan Kundera Why all the world loves Gulliver The changing face of indie music

Bomb maker caught say FBI

lan Katz in New York

ing in

leath

now

HE FBI appeared to have solved the 18-year Una-bomber case yesterday as a former Berkeley mathematics professor suspected of being the technophobic serial bomber was charged with possessing the components for an explosive device.

Theodore Kaczynski, aged 53. appeared in court in Helena. Montana, 34 hours after agents arrested him when he had resisted a search of his tiny wooden cabin in a remote area of the state.

Prosecutors say the agents found a partially assembled bomh inside the shack where Mr Kaczynski has lived as a recluse since the early 1970s. Last night, he was being held

in federal custody. Although the bearded fig-ure led through a throng of reporters bore little resemblance to the sketch produced after the Unabomber's only known sighting in 1987. agents are convinced he is the ione terrorist whose devices have killed three people and maimed 23 others,

Justice department sources said Mr Kaczynski was being charged with an offence unrelated to the Unabomber attacks, so that he could be held while agents continue investigations. The United States attorney general, Janet Reno, would say only: "We have much to do yet."

Among the questions



Blair in row on seat for rebel MP

Austin

TELL THEM THEY'VE GOT A HOWARTHONLY SHORILIST.

Black power

the set of the set of

Patrick Wintour, Chief Political Correspondent

PECULATION is mounting inside the Labour Party the Landin Fair is planning to im-pose the former Tory MP, Alan Howarth, on a plum Labour mining seat in Yorkshire, in spite of objec-tions by the local party. Mr Howarth, who guit the Tory party in a blaze of pub-liated that the state of the state o licity last October, has already sent 500 copies of a five-page CV to the Wentworth constituency party. In the document he says he would be proud to represent the

It is widely acknowledged among the party leadership that it would send a poor meseven seeing a job." Mr Howarth was campaign-ing in the Staffordshire sage to wavering Tory voters if New Lebour was unable to reward Mr Howarth's couraouth-East byelection yester day. The prospects of a fur-ther byelection before the General Election, so giving a geous decision to quit the Tories by finding him a par-liamentary seat, although it chance for Mr Howarth to be imposed as the candidate by would require a rule change the party's National Execuas he has not been a Labour tive are receding.

greed new voluntary guidelines designed to prevent dis-crimination against women. It also agreed that eight of these seats should be selected in four sequential phases, ensuring the two seats at the back of queue — Wansbeck and Wentworth — cannot begin the 10-week selection process until October or November.

Many of the eight seats have already complained at the delays, but the national party insists the staggered timetable is necessary to ensure regional officials over-seeing the legally contentious selections are not over-burdened. However, party leaders have in the past used delays to impose talented candidates on difficult constituencies.

 Labour has made polling history by becoming the first

seats in Yorkshire and the North have been delayed as a byproduct of local hostility to the imposition of all-women shortlists. The policy was ruled unlawful by an indus-trial tribunal in January. The Labour NEC has

Mr Kaczynski could have travelled from Montana to the areas where several of the devices were posted. He does not have a car and travels around Lincoln. Montana, on a bicycle.

The investigation of his cabin was also being hampered by fears that it could be booby-trapped. "We have an explosives ordnance team Xraying everything before we can touch it," said one agent.

The Unabomber, so-called because his earliest targets were associated with universities and airlines, has confounded investigators during an 18-year campaign.

He is believed to be an expert homb-maker who crafted devices from household

Luddite's downfall, page 2 Theodore Kaczynski, the 53-year-old suspected Unabomber, after his arrest on Wednesday

er for two veers Speculation that Howarth is being groomed for party to enjoy such an enor-Wentworth intensified in the mous lead over its rivals -Kath Roden, vice-chairwoman of the 500-plus Went-worth party, said yesterday her general committee had agreed unanimously to write back to Mr Howarth, telling him it did not want anything to do with him, pointing out that all Labour candidates are required to be party members

for two years. Ms Roden said yestarday there would be rebellion on the leadership's hands if they tried to impose Mr Howarth. "People up here do not trust him. He comes from a safe Tory seat and what is to say he would not go back to one? "He was a member of the Conservative Party when the Government took on the min-ers and made no complaint. There is 70 to 80 per cent unemployment on estates up here with 25-year-olds never

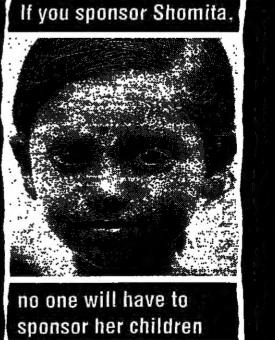
party after the NEC agreed to make the Wentworth selecand sustaining that lead for the longest period. According to today's Daily Telegraph, Labour continues to lead the Tories by roughly tion the last of the Labour safe seats to start the lengthy shortlisting and balloting pro-30 points, a margin it has maintained since Tony Blair cess. Selection is now unlikely to begin until late autumn. Mr Blair has said he now expects a general elec-

A Gallup poll of 10,284 vot-ers between February 29 and April 2, shows Labour on 57.3 per cent, (up from 55.4 per cent in February), the Tories on 23.9 per cent (25.4) and the Liberal Democrats on 15.1 per

succeeded John Smith as Labour leader in mid-1994. tion in the autumn. Peter Hardy, the current Wentworth MP, announced last year he was retiring at the election, bequeathing a

Mr

22,449 majority, the second safest Labour seat. Selections in a string of safe cent (14.9).



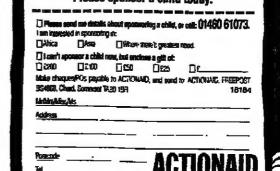
Linte Shomita is just six years old and the only life she's known is one of hunger, poverty and disease. But by the time she has children of her own. this could be a very different story.

It could be one about lamities, about villagers working together to earn their own living. About children who can read and write and have a luture. About a community that an treat the sick and is free from fatal diseases. And if it is, it is because you care enough to sponsor a child

In return, we'll keep you in touch with regular reports from our field workers plus a pholograph and messages from the child you sponsor.

Please sponsor a child today. With your help, we ally can change the future

Please sponsor a child today.



Inquest infuriates baby's family Grunting Finns come to terms with the 0.8 second handshake

Barbie Dutter

N INQUEST into the death of a child after he was shuttled between four hospitals in one day ended in uproar yesterday. after a verdict that he had died of natural causes. Relatives of 23-month-old Robert Benton yelled "farce"

is the jury foreman delivered the 8-1 majority verdict. One shouted: "I hope your consciences are clear. Surgeon Joseph Khalil-Mar-

zouk was also barracked by the family at Birmingham conner's court They yelled: "[We] just hope he never treats another child." Robert died last June at

Heartlands hospital, in Birmingham, after visiting three other hospitals over an eighthour period. Sandwell hospi-tal was too busy to see him immediately. Doctors at Good Hope hospital, in Sutton Coldfield, took an X-ray which showed his left lung to be unusually inflated and arranged a transfer to Birmingham children's hospital. But when he arrived, no bed was available. He was eventually ad-

Inside

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\$*\$. * ##**



Timothy Dawes and Julie Benton plan to sue over the death of their son, Robert, right

mitted as an emergency at Benton, of Rowley Regis, in Heartlands but died during the West Midlands, who is heavily pregnant with her second child. "It was meant to surgery.

Robert's parents, Julie Ben-ton, aged 33, and Timothy Dawes, aged 32, plan to sue the health authorities for albe a jury decision. He didn't direct them. He misdirected them." leged negligence. They criti-She added: "I don't think cised the coroner's direction that the jury should return a we are going to come to terms with it. We don't accept it and

you can't come to terms with verdict of natural causes. "What was the point of an inquest when the jury are told what to say?" said Ms tington, told the court Robert

tions but was, generally speaking, healthy. The post mortem examination had shown he died from a double lung collapse caused by an acute bronchial infection. As a result of artificial ventilation during surgery, Robert's diseased hungs had probably torn under the pres-sure and led to his death.

had a history of chest infec-

Doctors had said Robert turn to page 3, column 1 growing by the week."

Ms Suonpera, who gath-ers course material by **Jon Henley in Helsinki** heading overseas two or three times a year, said many of her students were unsure how to approach the most basic formalities. DetERMINED not to be boutdone by smooth-talking continentals since joining the European Union She has developed strict guidelines. A handshake, for example, should last 0.8 seconds and consist of 1.5 shakes. "Only boors and politicians posing for photographs do it for longer," she said. last year, the naturally dour Finns are scrambling over one another to learn the complex mysteries of EU etiquette.

"It's not our fault we're a bit behind," said Kaarina Suonpera, who travels

A kiss on the cheek is around the country teaching business people Euro-man more complicated. ners, such as check-kissing and hand-shaking. "You have to remember that, "I tell them to stand 60

centimetres apart," Ms Suonpera said. "The right hand should then be raised until 50 years ago, most of us were farmers. But in and laid lightly on the other person's upper arm or shoulder, and the cheeks should touch briefly — left, right, and left again." But even if they have cleared the initial hurdle, deen-rooted preserve attil Europe, people expect some-thing more than a nod and a grunt." Ms Suonpera said that

Finns, long isolated by dis-

tance, climate and an all but impenetrable language, deep-rooted reserve still are increasingly sensitive to the fact that — abroad at leaves many Finns illequipped, says Michael least - courtesy counts. Staunton, an English teacher in Helsinki. "The "It's become quite a boom concept of small-talk is very hard for Finns. In Pinland, if you have nothing to say industry, she said. "My classes are oversubscribed - and the competition's

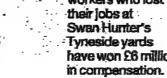
you keep your mouth shut." int and Letters 8 **Obituaries** 10 Crossword 15; Weather 16

Radio 16; TV 16

Sport Creatine, the food compound hailed by athletes as a safe alternative to anabolic steroids.

may be harmful doctors warned.

16



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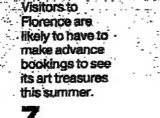
with a £20 million investment to finance 4,500 "customer. assistant" jobs.

Britain

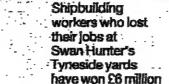
Tesco opened a

new front in the

supermarket wars



World News



Finance

2 NEWS

Sketch

'Gutted' Geordies bounce back



Peter Hetherington

LUTCHING a cam-Corder in the cavernous St James's Park souve-nir store. Sebastian Chitarrini found it hard to contain his excitement as fans streamed past the pinging tills.

"I have been all around Europe and never seen a place like this." beamed the 19-yearold Parisian. in Newcastle to film and prepare a commentary on success in soccer for his business studies course and hopefully interview the French winger David Ginola What a stadium. I've been

to the San Siro and, yes, this is just about as good. And what a game last night. And these fans. So friendly but a bit diffi-cult to understand. Strange ac-cent but so dedicated." cent but so dedicated."

His team, Paris St Germain, second in the French league was one thing — Newcastle United quite another. "They'll do it (win the championship), I'm sure, if they can play like

that. Magnificent." Nearby, Tracy Foster, from Gateshead, had just spent 283 on United's marcon and white training strips and souvenirs for her sons Paul, aged six, and Ben, four. "I know it's ex-pensive but the kids love them. They've all got them. It's like a uniform around here."

She was just recovering from the 4-3 defeat by Liver-pool after being "devastated" the night before. "I was so cheesed off that I took it out on the kids. You just can't take that tension, but today things seem better.

Ian Murphy, aged 20, a sea-son ticket holder since 1982 – when United were drawing half their current capacity crowds of 36,000 ---said the result left him "gutted — an awful empty feeling in the stomach. There were tears in my eyes. I thought we'd thrown it away but it's an-other day and, yes, we might just do it.

Behind the store, in the boardroom of the Milburn

Review

stand — named after the club's late, great hero Jackie — something of a drama had been unfolding as chairman Sir John Hall turned on the "small minority of support. 'small minority of supporters" who had dared to criticise the manager Kevin Keegan's attacking style of play. Keegan was unrepentant after the Liverpool defeat. "W carry on playing this way -or I go," he said - a veiled threat perhaps but one that

Sir John, who has ploughed £70 million of his personal fortune into stadium and players. took a little seriously. "I'm appalled at the criti-cism," said Sir John. "These

people should stay away if they don't want to back Kevin They should remember that only four years ago this club was heading for the (old) Third Division." By late afternoon, club cap-tain Peter Beardsley had ar-

rived at the stadium. As sup-porters crowded around for autographs, he was philosoph ical. "Disappointed, yes, but with seven games to go we will do it with support like this. All the lads feel the same way. The fans are tremendous." For the club bosses, observ-

ing the queues outside the souvenir store, the future still looked decidedly bright. Five years ago the club merchan-dising business was turning over £200,000 annually, now it's edging towards £9 million Overall, club turnover is up from £4 million to £40 million Above all Newcastle United and the sporting infrastruc-

ture it now supports, from rugby to ice hockey, is one big money-making machine. There is but one problem the ultimate prize. **Chief executive Freddie**

Fletcher, who put Glasgow Rangars on an even keel finan-cially, remained realistic above FBI the hype. "We are not an institution," he conceded. "Man-chester United and Liverpool agents are because you've got to win things to become an institu-tion, and that's the challenge." believe Freddie Shepherd, a direc-tor who owns 10 per cent of the club, remained upbeat: they

have

finally

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up with

a serial

bomber

Y yesterday morn-ing the pieces were sliding into place like parts of

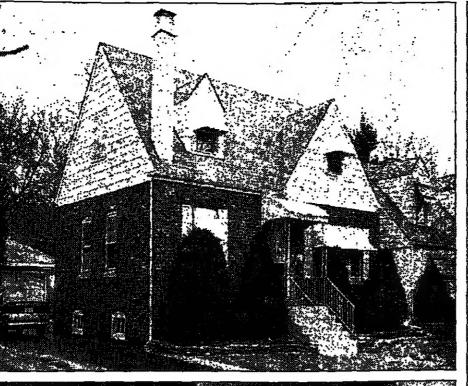
a jigsaw. He was a

rilliant mathematician who

abandoned academia for a

"Geordies are used to getting knocked but they always bounce back." And they play struggling QPR at home tomorrow, and Blackburn away on Monday.

David Lacey, page 14; Hall hits out, page 16





The bonse in a quiet Chicago suburb (top left) where Theodore Kaczynski (above left) is believed to have spent his boyhood years, before gaining a scholarship to Harvard (right)

Misfit's lonely downfall

The bomb targets across America

D May 28, 1978 - Northwestern University In on. Minols: Package bomb explodes inturing a university police officer.

Billey 9, 1979 - Northwestern University: device oft on the university's student common exploded, slightly injuring a graduate. GNov. 15, 1979 - Chicago: parcel bomb mailed in

l'siciado exclódes in an aeroplane's cargo area. Twelve people suffered from amoks inhale June 10, 1980 - Chicago suburb: Parcel bond

niuras airena executiva. Oct. 8, 1981 - University of Litzh, Sait Lake City: Bomb found in heliway, detused by bomb

Dilary 5, 1982 - Vancierbill Unive

e: Peckage bomb explodes, sturing a cretary in the compoter science departme July 2, 1982 - University of California at Bertaley: Protessor jajurad by bomb in college

Blog 15, 1985 - University of California at ley; Graduate bedly injured when a bomb explodes in a computer room A ture 13, 1985 - Autom.

B June 22, 1993 - Taburon, California: Renowied geneticist injured by parcel bomb. D Jame 24, 1953 - Yele University, New Haven, cut: Computer science professor injured by parcel bomb. Dec 10, 1994 - N Caldwell, NJ: New York City

mg executive killed by parcel bomb. B April 24, 1995 - Secremento, California ioni of the California Forestry Associat falled by parcel bomb.

June 28, 1995 - San Francisco: San Francisco Chronicle newspaper received a letter threatering to bomb a flight out of Los Angeles International Alicon

June 1895 - Unabomber contacts the New York Times and the Weshington Post saying offering to stop his campaign it they print his manifesto of Sept. 19, 1995 - Washington, D.C.: The

Weshington Post and New York Times publish the 35,000-word manife

April 3, 1996 - Theodore Kaczynski, tormer university maths professor, taken into custody for

miration for his intelligence and craftsmanship,

acting assistant professor at | things. He may even be talk-the University of California at | ing to himself while he makes

eaching mathematics for two years, he resigned for ers through the rare compo-unknown reasons. nents used in their devices. His path after leaving sca-demia is less clear. According to reports yesterday, he took a succession of odd-jobs as he wandered round the country. For a period around 1990, agents believe he lived in a remote Afghanistan village.

when a man in a hooded sweatshirt and sunglasses TH his bizzare Luddite credo and

suspect, but the bomber simfiendish bombply disappeared, stopping his attacks for six years. making skills, the Unabomber has surpassed the most notorious serial bomber By the time a San Francisco in American history, the so-called Mad Bombar, George Metesky, whose pursuers grudgingly admitted their ad-

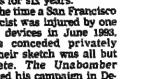
eticist was injured by one of his devices in June 1993. agents conceded privately that their sketch was all but obsolete. The Unabomber resumed his campaign in De-

Berkeley, another hothed of leftwing activism. After them

The Guardian Friday April 5 1996

but the Unabomber made everything himself. The agents hunting him with in-creasing desperation got their first breakthough in 1987.

was spotted leaving what later proved to be a bomb in a Salt Lake City car park. They now had a sketch of their



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Frequently investigators manage to track down bomb-

Size matters for slimline Loaf

Dave Simpson Meat Losf

Manchester Nynex

DEFORE the main B course, a succession of black and white films pondered the "Dos and Don'ts of Dating" and asked "What does it take to be popular?" It a question Meat Loaf must have agonised over time and time again. Bullied as a child over his bulk (2001bs aged 10), like Pulp's Jarvis Cocker he has serialised his revenge. "They taunt me for being big." he must have decided. "So I'll become even bigger." And he did. Bat Out Of Hell, released in 1977, is the fourth bigges selling album of all time, shift-ing almost 30 million copies. The sequel and comeback album from 1993 has sold half

that already. The irony is that Meat Loaf's music is bigger, even, than his gargantuan sales. It's based around big titles, considerable bombast, gut-wrenching power ballads and a drum sound the size of a small nuclear explosion. The question wasn't whether Meat would be big enough to fill the enormous Nynex but would the venue be big enough to hold him?

However, when Mr Loaf appeared, he was, sadly, a limmed down model of him self, dwarfed by the 40ft inflatable suspende(re)d woman front stage. Meat's songs pres-ent an idealised, larger-thanlife view of ladies, but this looked ridiculous. As each preposterous "ooh" led into a honey-drenched "ah", a power ballad would collapse into a hushed yet still somehow bombastic piano. Even the woman seemed overcome by the size of it all. She promptly deflated. At times, it was hard to remember these are the '90s. But if Meat is to his former self what a Ford Fiesta is to a

Pontiac gas-guzzler, this was the only concession made to the times. From the band's absurd Eagles haircuts to their endless boogle jams, it was as if the '80s had never lan Katz in New York happened. Meat Loaf's cowboy-booted

rock songs are romantic fanta sies brimming with sexual tension but no actual sex; onkbusters without the bonks; good, mildly risque, old-fashioned stuff, where political correctness has no place.

The new songs sounded like the old songs. Their titles con-sisted of excruciating puns (An Original Sin), clichés ("pounding hearts"), and guitar solos that made you thank-ful the Sex Pistols are reforming. Sometimes it was hard not to be overwhelmed by the sheer scale of it to wonder how many babies had been conceived to Paradise By The Dashboard Light or how many motorcyclists have revved off to an early grave listening to Bat Out Of Hell. And sometimes, it was hard to imagine this enormous wall

of sound was created by a human. But as the night wore on it was clear some of Meat's vocal power has diminished with age and slimming aids. During I'd Lie For You And That's The Truth, he sounded overwrought, dwarfed by the shrill tones of co-vocalist Patti Russo. Meat is big, but not, it would appear, big enough for his own show.



bearded recluse have failed to | arouse suspicion. So disdainful of motorised transport was he, that he rode every-where on an old bicycle fitted with home-made snow tires. Mr Kaczynski's arrest as he

resisted a search of his cabin by FBI agents on Wednesday appeared to have ended one of the most expensive and hermet-like existence. He lived in a tiny, hand-built cabin without electricity or running water. He spoke little and read voraciously. the most expensive and humiliating manhunts in American history. Ever since a primitive bomb exploded at Northwest-ern University in May 1978 injuring a security guard, an army of agents had criss-crossed the country, always The description of Theodore Kaczynski could hardly have matched the pro-file drawn up by the FBI any better. Long before the former Berkeley professor aged 53 was charged in a Montana crossed the country, always seemingly a step behind the bomber whose campaign cost courtroom with possessing an unregistered firearm — specifically. components from which an explosive device could be assembled — agents who had hunted a technophothe lives of three people and maimed 23 others. In one of his many letters to newspapers, the bomber even

took the trouble to taunt his pursuers: "It doesn't appear the FBI is going to catch us any time soon," he wrote. "The FBI is a joke." bic serial bomber for almost two decades were convinced they had the Unabomber. Perhaps only in Montana, a tolerant haven for eccentrics and extremists such as the so-called Freemen holed up in a In the end, it was not the thousands of hours spent ranch several miles to the combing library records. east. could the intense. questioning academics, or

visiting scrap metal yards that led investigators to Mr Kaczynski's cabin outside the tiny town of Lincoln. The 18year-old case was broken by a stroke of luck.

According to law enforce ment sources, members of Mr Kaczynski's family became suspicious two months ago when clearing out their bun-galow in Chicago. Among the suspect's effects, they found a collection of writings uncan-

nily similar to the 35.000 word "manifesto" published by the Washington Post and New York Times in September. Fearing the worst, Mr Kac-zynski's brother contacted the FBL A search of the fam-

ily home turned up more clues, but even after weeks of painstaking surveillance, in-vestigators said they did not have enough evidence to ar-rest the former academic. That changed when agents searched his cabin on Wednesday. According to the

New York Times, they found explosive materials and bomb-making equipment. As agents had long sus-

pected of the bomber, Mr Kac-zynski had once lived in Chicago, northern California and Utab. The suspect was described as a broody loner who was all but self-sufficient. He spoke in enigmatically incom-plete sentences.

The young Mr Kaczynski was remembered as distinctly unmemorable. He passed quickly through high school, winning a scholarship to study mathematics at Harvard University, before mov-ing to the University of Michi-gan to study for a doctorate. computer.

It was the mid-sixties, and the Michigan campus was a credle of student radicalism. But Mr Kaczynski was remembered more for his aca-demic achievements. The sus-pect's prefered intellectual ter-rain was the recondite area of numbered. so-called "complex analysis". George Pirnaian, a mathe-

matics professor who taught him, said: "He was a very able, very serious student and he solved a very difficult problem in his thesis."

had little idea of the trail of terror that lay ahead when amateurish devices exploded New Jersey. Four months at two Illinois universities in later, another device killed 1978 and 1979. Agents began to suspect that they might be dealing with a serial bomber Gilbert Murray, head of a lobbying company which had worked for the timber trade. in November 1979 when a de-vice exploded in the hold of The killing fuelled specualtion about one aspect of the an American Airlines flight case. The Unabomber apto Washington, without caus-ing injury. Because his tar-gets had been linked with unipeared to have a fascination for wood: almost all his devices had some wooden parts. versities and airlines, they dubbed the case "Unabom". The bomber struck regu-In April 1995, the Una-bomber wrote to the New York Times declaring that he larly in the early 1980's. In 1980, the United Airlines preswas an anarchist. He announced that he was "getting ident, Percy Wood, was intired of making bombs" and jured opening a package at his Chicago home. A Berkeley proposed a Faustian bargain; if the New York Times and Washington Post would pubprofessor received one two years later. In 1985, two

Vasimigion rost would hub-lish his 35,000-word mani-festo, he would stop. The rambling diatribe even-tually published by the Washpeople were mained at the University of Michigan Later that year, the bomber killed ington Post provided investi-gators with a treasure trove of clues. In his rant, the for the first time. His victim was Hugh Scrutton, the owner of a computer store in Sacramento, California. The bomber appeared to have broadened his range of targets, but investigators still mber cited a small library of abstruse texts. Agents combed university library

lists to find out who had borsaw a pattern: individuals linked with technology — in particular computers. They speculated Unabomber may rowed titles such as Chinese Political Thought in the 20th Century. Meanwhile, the manifesto have lost his job to a

earned the Unabomber an almost cult status in America's But the bombs themselves growing technophobic counterwere a window on the Una-bomber's personality, crafted from everyday items such as culture. "He has become one of those emblems of 20th-century America," says Gar Smith, a radical environmentalist, in a scrap wood and lamp wire. Metal parts appeared to have been polished, and some even forthcoming documentary to be broadcast on Channel 4. The FBI showed copies of the manifesto to dozens of academics in an effort to iden-

"He's doing these things not because he has to, but because he enjoys it or feels a tify the Unabomber - but the matrixsprotessorwho taughtbecause he exposes to or reels aury the urhim, said: "He was a verycompulsion to do it," a retiredsuspect's ofable, very serious student andFBI bomb expert who helpedto have behe solved a very difficulthunt the Unabomber for 14In Linceproblem in his thesis."years said. "I picture somepeople willAfter earning his doctorate,one bent over a bench late atstill shakMr Kaczynski took a job as annight tinkering with thedisbelief. suspect's own family appears to have beaten them to it. In Lincoln yesterday, most people who knew him were still shaking their heads in

Smoking linked to cervical cancer but quitting reverses the damage

Chris Mihili Medical Corre

WOMEN who smoke are increasing their chances of cervical cancer, but those or cervical cancer, but those who quit can reverse the dam-age, researchers say today. Scientists from the imperial Cancer Research Fund have looked at the changes in ab-normal cells in the cervix available.

among women who continue to smoke and those who stop. Those who gave up showed a significant drop in the size of the abnormalities, and in some cases the problem cleared up altogether.

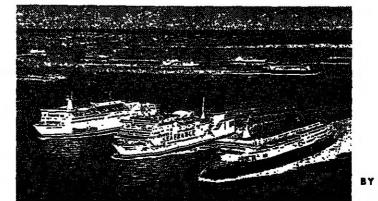
Carrier bags crammed full of choice...

RELAX and just cruise across from Dover to Calais the shortest sea route to France.

Large, luxurious car ferries with shops, restaurants and enteriainment on board, plus hovercraft, provide rapid, comfortable crossings with a departure every thirty minutes. Fast on and off loading on both sides of the Channel helps to speed your

journey. Instant motorway access from Calais port provides an open door to the entire European motorway network.

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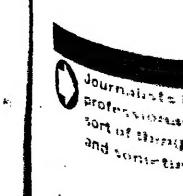


For a shopping day, a relaxing stay or for immediate access to motorway...

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...a short cruise away.

DOVER/CALAIS OVER 140 CROSSINGS DAILY O EUROPEAN FERRIES, STENA LINE, SEAFRANCE & HOVERSPEED.

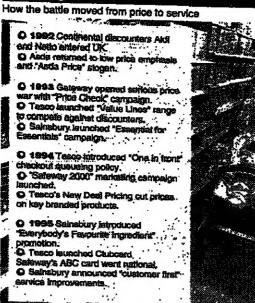


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Rivals dismiss £20 million investment to create 4,500 part-time assistant jobs

Trolley wars



Packers square up to greeters as Tesco raises the stakes in superstores service war

Roger Cowe on a 'customer care' drive

ESCO yesterday opened | vice jobs and other initiatives a new front in the super- | such as special provision for such as special provision for bables and chidren. market wars with a £20 The deputy managing direc-tor of Tesco, Terry Leahy, denied yesterday's move was million investment in customer service which will finance 4,500 part-time "customer assistant" jobs. based on its competitors'

fall

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APPERSO ON

4. 25 8 11 1. at 71 %

Rivals quickly dismissed the "packers" initiative, increased emphasis on ser-vice. "This is another Tesco which heralds a switch in emfirst which will bring an unriphasis away from price. They claimed they were already of-fering the kinds of service valled standard of service,"he said. "It's not about putting on a plastic smile." which Tasco introduced yes-terday, with Asda looking for The customer assistants. identifiable by blue waist-coats, have been recruited 1.000 extra "greeters" — jolly

Selling point . . . 'It's not about putting on a plastic smile,' a Tesco spokesman claimed

which has been tested in nine stores since August, was part of a programme which began three years ago and costs £100 million a year. The first step was an inter-nal "First Class Service"

training programme aimed at encouraging store staff to be more helpful. Service improvements began in 1994 with the "One in Front" promise to open more check-outs when queues begin to form. This was followed last year with the launch of the over the past six weeks and have each received 22 hours Clubcard loyalty scheme, which now has 5.5 million promotional leaflets and are training. They are equivalent



is understood to be pressing

NEWS 3 Woolwich contracts scrutinised

lan King

HE investigation into

alleged expenses "dis-

chief executive, Peter Robin

in multi-million pound busi

outside business contracts

formed part of the board's de cision to ask 54-year-old Mr

Robinson to leave the

These include the apparent

ordering of a Range Rover which was billed directly to

the Woolwich without the

Directors were also con-

cerned at suggestions that Mr Robinson used Woolwich staff to act as gardeners at his

knowledge of the society's

audit department.

£450,000 Kent home.

year's salary. He is also lemanding the guarantee of full pension rights for his 33

which is equivalent to a

years of service. Mr Robinson publicly denied any irregular conduct over his expenses claims in a crepancies" which led to the sacking of the Woolwich Building Society issued on statement son, has been widened to examine possible irregularities

Wednesday. He said: "The first I heard from the board was on Mon-day afternoon. This was after ness dealings between him and outside contractors. 33 years of unblemished ser-vice with the Woolwich. of Directors are understood to be concentrating their atten-tion on two contracts drawn up on behalf of the Woolwich which I am very proud, and culminating in my appoint ment as chief executive only three months ago. I deny that

with independent companies, the Guardian has established. I have in any way misused the society's facilities." Details came to light after an internal audit drew the His firm of lawyers, DJ Freeman, yesterday called on board's attention to sugges-tions that Mr Robinson had the Woolwich to "put up or shut up". Irena Greaves, for submitted a series of irregu-lar expenses claims. the firm, said it was still wait-The investigation into the ing for the Woolwich to pronature of his involvement in

vide evidence of alleged wrongdoings, and accused the society of making contradictory statements to the press. She added: "We've nothing to comment on because we

company. This latest development in haven't seen the allegations in full — the ball's in the Woolwich's court." the inquiry follows earlier disclosures that the Woolwich had uncovered a series of alleged irregularities in expenses submitted by Mr Robinson. The Woolwich last night de-

clined to make any comment on the progress of its inqui-ries. However the society is understood to have no plan to press charges on condition that Mr Robinson returns the disputed funds.

A well-placed source close to the Woolwich last night said that Mr Robinson could have stood to get share op-tions yielding him at least £2 million if he had remained with the society to oversee its flotation.

Mr Robinson was last night unavailable for comment. He The £3 billion issue has been pencilled in for August for £300,000 compensation, next year.



Asda employs 2,000 people in these jobs, and 3,000 other service assistants, but wants to make sure that all shoppers in any way they entrances to its 207 stores are think is appropriate. That served by "greeters".

uncle types who welcome customers to the store, hand out

available to help shoppers.

Safeway said: "Tesco hasn't announced anything that Safeway doesn't already offer its customers. We have been operating a bag-packing and shopping into cars. Tesco operating a bag-packing and carry-out service for the last 25 years.

20 years. Sainsbury pointed out that last summer's £30 million a year "customer first" cam-paign meant 5,000 extra ser-Mr Leaby said the scheme,

w 2,000 null-time workers and are paid 23.85 per hour (with higher rates in London). Their task is to offer help to shoppers in any way that a little more in the stores. will mainly be unpacking trolleys and packing bags but can also include fetching for-"The aim is to break even," he explained yesterday. "It only needs about one per cent extra sales. He denied the emphasis on service was intended to distract attention from prices. "Price is still very important. plans for each store to have at least one customer assistant Customers have become more

demanding — they want bet-ter quality, better prices and better service."

Till talk 'We don't need no bit of posh round here'

Sarah Ryle

AT THE Elephant & Cas-tomer assistants were fully deployed. But there was not a blue waistcoat in sight. Only loads of cynical south Londoners

One bemused checkout land and Safeway? Neville worker was unaware the Jackson, aged 28, was un-new salvo had been impressed. "They should

launched. "So that's what | have dolly birds promoting those people are doing. There are a few of them the special offers, not people in blue waistcoats." around with big badges with their names on but maybe they haven't got A nonchalant Samantha Wright, aged 23, said: "I don't really need people hassling me but I suppose it's good for older people or women with small kids." their uniforms yet. They're trying to be a bit posh, aren't they?" If there was one thing the people of SE1 could do without, according to local Sheryl James was prepar-

ing to tackle the holiday shop with her daughter, Rachel. "I do like help with without, according to local resident Danny Frost, a bit of posh was it. "They have made it into one of those Metro shops with soup in clear plastic bags, but it isn't like the Covent Gar-den one with eight kinds of the packing. I don't mind not having one of the huge supermarkets nearby because I can get a paper and stuff from the chemist's in the shopping centre. It's a pesto. You couldn't do that here. You'd be killed." bit of a gimmick." For Gladys Parker, in her So would the blue waistlate 70s, the critical issue was the cost of the camcoated troops drag the cli-ents out of the nearby Icepaign to customers. glad some more people have got jobs but I hope the

prices don't go up."

Inquest verdict infuriates baby's family

continued from page 1 died as a result of a birth de-fect which led to the collapse of his windpipe. But the pa-thologist, David Rushton, told dence of such a condition, de-spite the claims of three doc-nate mix-up" concerning procedures had been impletors in the operating theatre Robert's transfer between that they had seen some form

of collapse. Dr Whittington said: "It is distressing for the parents to recall this and they may feel they were let down in this respect. But I don't be-lieve there is any concrete venture. We should not be pillorying surgeons for the Robert's case it would have All the hospitals accept there actions they have taken in made a different outcome. All the bospitals accept there are lessons to be learned."

"I believe Robert died as a good faith as a result of their | consequence of his illness training and experience. We must remember the essennatural causes.' The hospitals admitted tials. The essentials were they were trying to save the life of a very sick child." there was a "lack of clarity" in communication and said in a joint statement that new

mented following internal investigations. "The circumstance of Robert's death is a tragedy," the statement said. "All the hospitals are doing everyhospitals and said: "I am sure thing possible to ensure such evidence to say that in an event cannot happen again.

Journalists like to think of themselves as professionals — doctors, lawyers, that sort of thing. Wrong. They're tradesmen and sometimes the trade is rough. Peter Preston on Victor Zorza

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Page 9

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4 BRITAIN

Howard told money to build jails would be better spent on policing

Chief constable attacks minimum sentencing

Alan Travis Home Affairs Editor

ACHIEF constable yester-day broke ranks and became the first senior police officer to back the judges in their row with the Home Sec-retary, Michael Howard, over US-style sentencing. During a visit to Grimsby drug dealers.

by Mr Howard, Humberside chief constable Tony Leonard said that money to be spent building a new generation of private prisons would be bet-ter used for policing and crime prevention.

The attack came as the new director-general of the Prison Service. Richard Tilt, warned Mr Howard that if the already predicted rises in the prison population are to be met he will need to double the prison building programme promised in the white paper, de- | tences and should trust the ju- | would not be enough

tailing tougher sentences, diciary to implement sensible which was published earlier arrangements as to the length this week. The chief constable was

f the sentence," he said. But the Home Secretary defended the principles behind his package during his visit highly critical of the conse quences of a policy that will to Mr Leonard's force, argumean three-year minimum sentences for third-time ing that money would be found both for the prison building programme and for burglars and seven-year mini-mum jail terms for repeat extra police.

"A maximum sentence is not a sufficient deterrent. These views are not the views of the police generally and I am very pleased that my proposals are being supported by the people at the sharp end of the law," said Mr Howard.

He acknowledged that the sentencing package addressed However while the Home Secretary was promising money would be available for the 12 new prisons needed to important issues but voiced concern about the erosion of the independence of judges. "I agree with the Lord Chief Justice in that I don't think house the 10,800 extra inmates a year when his mini-mum sentences come in, Mr Tilt was warning that it Parliament should set mini-mum sentences. The law should set maximum sen-

"We shall have an argu-ment about precisely how much money we need, but the white paper commits the Government to providing additional resources and I am confident that is a firm commitment." The most recent projection of the prison population, pub-lished yesterday by the Home Office, expects daily jail num-

"We need to build another 10 prisons to cope with the al-ready expected rise in the prison population. We're looking at a programme that will include a total of 25 pris-ons over the next 10 to 12 ware " Mr Thit said during a

years," Mr Tilt said during a visit to Gartree prison in

bers to rise by a further 8,900 within the next eight years, before taking the white paper proposals into account. Brit-ain's jail population is al-ready at a record 53.941. The Guardian Friday April 5 1996 Finetime

for a traffic jam

Vivek Chaudhery

MotoRISTS were warned yesterday of serious congestion on roads as thousands headed off for the tradi-tional Easter break and forecasters predicted fine weather. weather.

The AA said that while most roadworks have been suspended for the four-day break, work is continuing on the M25 between junc-tions six and eight and nine and 10; on the M6 between junction 20 and 21a in Cheshire and junction 28 and 29 in Lancashire: and on the A617 in Derbyshire. A spokesman added: "The

good weather is set to continue and there could be serious congestion along country roads and motorways where roadworks are continuing. Most people have left early for their breaks but are set to return on Monday so there will be further congestion then, We are advising motorists to stagger their journeys and check their vehicles be-

fore setting off." The Confederation of British Industry claimed yesterday that Easter traf-fic congestion has once again highlighted "the his-toric failure of UK trans-

port policy". Robert Napier, chairman of the CBI's transport pol-icy committee, said that an extra £2 billion should be spent on transport infrastructure, including roads and public transport.

SU

Hogg

Gatwick airport said that Gatwick airport said that it expected to handle around 380,000 passengers during the Easter break. Popular destinations are the United States, Carib-

was expected to remain sunny and there was only a slight chance of rain in remote parts of Scotland.

would be required to meet NACAB standards and to pro-

was better.

"It's going to cost an awful

lot of money in terms of build-

ing new prisons. I'd rather see that money ploughed into policing and preventing crime," Mr Leonard said.

Clare Dyer Legal Correspondent

UCH of the advice given by Citizens' Advice Bureaux on employment rights is incorrect and could expose them to negligence claims, an independent report has concluded.

The research, commis-sioned by the National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux (NACAB), found that nearly 40 per cent pleted 18 months ago but has "The willingness of the CAB of advice was "below a stan-dard of competence that Action, the journal of the report is much to its credit.

tect against possible claims of sentative, and looked in denegligence". The report, from Tamara tail at 319 cases. Bureaux tended to give poor advice on unfair dis-missal in redundancy cases, failed to identify workplace Lewis and Penny Waterhouse of the Central London Law Centre, classified only 20 per cent of advice as "good". Nearly half of "one-off" addiscrimination, and failed to advise on maternity leave vice was "poor" or "very poor", though follow-up work

procedures and job security in sickness cases The study, which has had a limited circulation, was com-Roger Smith, director of the Legal Action Group, said: "The willingness of the CAB

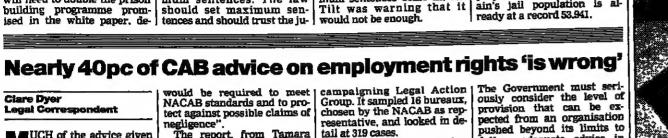
deliver adequate advice in complex areas of law without adequate resources

Mr Smith said the report showed there were "grave dangers" in the Government's plans to shift some advice work from solicitors to general advice agencies.

Sue Thomas, NACAB's head of information, said: "It is good to know that 60 per cent of advice is OK."







يحدًا من الإجل

حكمنا من الاجل

Finetime for a traffic jam

SIC.

WHSm

The Guardian Friday April 5 1996

BRITAIN 5

BSE crisis: Minister hints at action in European court

Harman alleges deregulation flew in face of official study



Cardboard stand-in . . . Artists Paul Meedham (left) and Chris Gilmore display a prototype sculpture of cardboard and sticky tape which they plan to reproduce and offer to farmers for £250 each to fill the gap in the landscape when millions of cows are slaughtered to eradicate BSE. They will colour the model to match any breed, as required. They will make cardboard calves too, but not cowpats PHOTOGRAPH DENIS THOPPE

Hogg stands by cattle cull plan

'They'll have to shoot us first' say angry farmers

Michael White and Owen Bowcott

HE Agriculture Minister, Douglas Hogg, yesterday accused his critics at home and in Europe of misunderstanding the extent of the long-term problems involved in eradicating BSE and his measures to bring that about. As Mr Hogg stood by his



Douglas Hogg: alleges

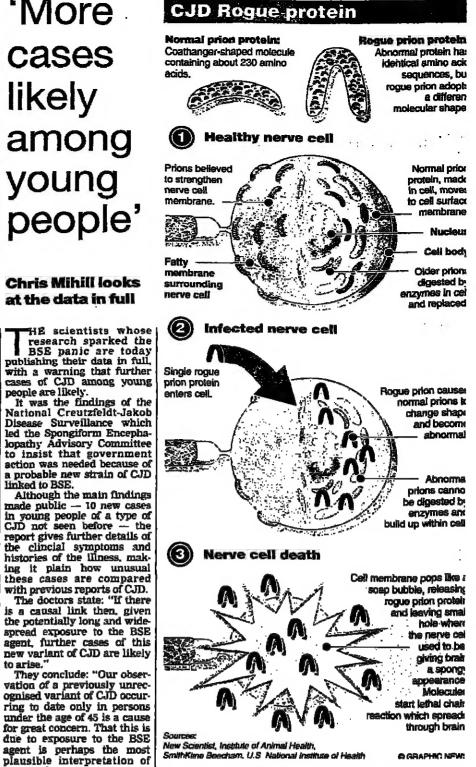
ment has done to restore mar. Meat hygiene ket confidence. He told Radio 4's World at One that the EU had "un-based expectations" as to what could be done. There was constant talk, for example, of eradicating BSE in a short time as a condition of lifting the ban, "Now that is simply not possible," he said. Anthony Gibson, regional director of the National Farmers Union in the South-west, said the destruction of whole herds would be resisted. "If the Ministry of Agriculture were to try to do that, they would find their way literally barred. We've had farmers

undermined by Government, says Labour Patrick Wintour ABOUR yesterday renewed its attack on hygiene standards in the meat industry, claiming the Govermment had received, and ignored, repeated warnings about Britain's slaughterhouses

The shadow health secre-tary, Harriet Harman, and her deputy, Henry McLeish, allesad that in 1993 the Gov.

cent of slaughterhouses in England and Wales scored less than 50 out of 100 points for hygiene standards. Eighty per cent scored less than 70 out of 100, and only 1 per cent more than 90 out of 100. Unannounced inspections by the state veterinary service in 1995 showed 48 per cent of slaughterhouses failed to meet the bovine offal

spite the damning report for the ministry, the Government went absed with deregula-tion. A ministry press release in 1993 boasted. Labour pointed out yesterday, that a seven-point plan of deregulation in the meat industry signals a move to a less prescrip-



U.S Na

our findings. However, we emphasise that we do not have direct evidence of such a and 1989.

In nine of the 10 unusual cases the patients had shown early behavioural changes Robert Will, head of the Edinburgh-based unit, and and had been referred to a UK and overseas colleagues say in the Lancet that 10 out of 207 cases of CJD examined cases had the usual EEG neuropathologically since May 1990 have patterns of brain damage which clearly

in people under 34 have been | no record of BSE in the herd. identified since 1990, com-pared with four between 1970 | or beef products in the past 10 years, but none had eaten brain. One had been a strict

vegetarian since 1991. The doctors do not think in creased awareness of the illpsychiatrist. None of the ness - meaning that more doctors are looking for it -(brainwave) patterns associ-ated with CJD, and the doc-tors say that using conven-tors say that using conven-

ringing us and saying 'if they try to shoot my cows, they'll

regulations. Labour claimed that, de-

link, and other explanations are possible."

- and hinted at legal action in the European Court to up-hold it if necessary - his German counterpart, Jochen Borchert, said on local radio that "no one seriously expects the made ban to be lifted in six weeks' time" when veterinarians review the situation.

Mr Hogg said he was not going to put a timetable on going to put a timetable on getting the ban lifted. "My business is not to arouse ex-pectations which I cannot ful-fil," he added as some farmevidence ers were reported as being herds are as badly infected, if willing to stand in front of not more so, than Britain's. their herds and be shot first Mr Hogg believes British rather than sanction a point farmers have also falled to

Gibson told BBC Radio 4's Farming Today. less sacrifice of their life's work and their livelihoods. For his part, Mr Hogg ap Last night a leading neuropathologist, Dr Helen Grant, alleged that a potential looppealed to farmers to act "logically", though he has been hole existed in the Governwell aware how emo tional Tory MPs, especially those with farming interests ment's precautions. The brains of calves under the age especially of six months are still being feel about what they regard as a cynical European Union sold for human consumption, ploy to weaken British agriculture. Conservative MPs insist without furnishing tangible

chiefly in Arab restaurants, the agriculture ministry has confirmed. On the assump tion that BSE is passed from - that Europe's mothers to calves — a possibility being investigated by ministry researchers — in-fected offal may still be reaching the dinner table.

ernment went shead with de nforcement

regulation of slaughterhouses spite an independent report said that failure to meet gov for the Ministry of Agricul-ture on standards in slaughernment and EU standards has nothing to do with deregulation. Labour claimed that terbouses seeking derogathe latest figures show 112 slaughterhouses out of 424 fail tions from European Union fresh meat directives.

The report said some to comply with EU standards. Mr McLeish and Ms harslaughterhouses should have been closed years ago on pub man called on the Governlic health grounds. Others fell ment to publish the latest figures for bygiene assessment in slaughterbouses, recent short of the previous domes-tic regulations and had serious shortcomings in their figures for those that have satisfied the EU directives. operation

The Government's own Hyand names of those failing to giene Assessment System showed in 1994 that 30 per meet official hygiene standards.

The 10 cases, four men and Ministers have repeatedly

to arise.

six women, came to light beween February 1994 and Octoher 1985. The eight patients who have died were aged 19 to 1, with an average age of 29. The other two patients, who are seriously ill, are 18 and 31. The time between symptoms appearing and death ranged from 7.5 to 22.5 nonths, with an average of 12, the doctors say. "Among 185 cases of sporadic CJD identified since May 1990, the average age of onset was 65 years and median duration of disease was four months."

on a dairy farm between 1976 Nine cases of sporadic CJD | and 1986, although there was | looking for them.

nonal di none would have been classi fied as having CJD.

throughout the brain, and in

One patient had worked as

a butcher for three years be-

greater numbers.

"Exposure of the human population to BSE is likely to have been greatest in the 1980s, and especially towards the end of that decade, before The doctors say post mor tems, and brain biopsies in the two living patients, found that the 10 had strikingly difthe ban on the use of specified ferent patterns of damage compared with previous bovine offal was introduced. This would be consistent with ases, with clumps of the an incubation period of beprions thought responsible tween five and 10 years."

for the illness distributed Other scientists have ques tioned the distinctness of the 10 cases. A report in last week's New Scientist of studies by a researcher in Esse : said cases of CJD in young people had been missed be-

tween 1985 and 1987, and one spent a week's holiday a year cause doctors had not been

C

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6 WORLD NEWS

Lack of black box hinders crash inquiry as bodies are recovered

US counts cost of fatal Bosnian trade mission

Julian Borger in Zagreb and Mark Tran in New York

N HIGH winds and drivng rain, the bodies of the United States commerce secretary, Ron Brown, and at least 32 of his entou-rage were brought off a rugged, mine-strewn Croatian hillside yesterday as investigators tried to discover exact-ly why their aircraft crashed moments before landing in Dubrovnik on Wednesday.

A temporary morgue was set up in Dubrovnik airport where Croatian and US pathologists were expected to identify the remains. President Bill Clinton telephoned Mr Brown's widow vesterday morning to inform her his body had been identified. President Clinton ordered

flags to be flown at half mast in Washington, and the New York Stock Exchange observed a moment of silence.

The victims included 13 American businessmen. 12 US government officials, an American journalist, and two Croatians - a photographer and an interpreter. There was uncertainty whether 33 or 35 passengers and crew had been on the aircraft when it crashed.

It was still unclear yesterday why the T-43 — the military version of the Boeing 737 Clinton delays historic veto bill

DRESIDENT Clinton yes | dent to block parts of terday delayed plans to spending bills or to strike sign a historic line-item down narrowly-targeted spending bills or to strike down narrowly-targeted veto bill until next week, because of the death of Ron tax breaks. At present, the president may veto an en-tire bill but not its compo-nents. - Reuter.

Brown. The bill allows a presi-

slammed into a hillside on | at the airport there at Du-Wednesday afternoon on its approach to the airport. The brownik with no difficulty. If we thought it wasn't a safe apwe thought it wasn't a sare ap-proach we wouldn't allow our aircraft to use it," said Lieu-tenant-General Howell Estes, from the Pentagon. It is possible the pilot tried to abort his landing at the last moment. Instead of turning west the groups he 23-year-old aircraft was not carrying a "black box" voice and flight data recording system.

Miomir Zuzul, the Croatian ambassador to Washington, said the plane first hit the west towards the runway, he appeared to have veered east into a 2,300 foot hillside. A US joint military and civil team mountain with its right wing, then its right engine, followed by the fuselage. A local villager, Ivo Djuri-

crash

cic, the first person to see the was dispatched to Dubrovnik wreckage, said he heard a scraping sound just before the

yesterday to investigate. The high-profile Balkans trip led by Mr Brown was part of the multinational effort involving the World Bank and the private sector to Dubrovnik residents said Wednesday's storms were the worst for decades. Attention attract business and invest-ment to Bosnia and Croatia. also focused on Dubrovnik's airport, whose instrument Mr Brown said his job was to help US companies capture a landing system destroyed in fighting over four years ago. share of the \$5.1 billion Aviation sources at the airport and US Air Force officers denied that the lack of sophis-(£3.4 billion) in estimated aid that international financial institutions and governments ticated landing equipment are putting together to help the region.

caused the crash "Many aircraft have landed

The deaths of the senior executives on the plane have cut a swath through a range of American companies, not just in construction, but also technology and banking. Many were the chairmen and chief

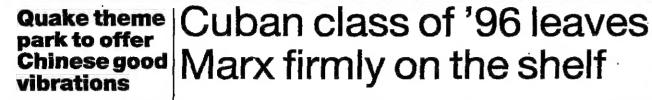
executive officers. A number of the executives were infrastructure experts. Leonard Pieroni was chairman and CEO of Parsons, based in Pasadena, California, the USA's fourth largest construction company. Another well-known engi-

neering company that lost its top man was Foster Wheeler Energy from New Jersey: its chairman Robert Whittaker went down. Chairman John Scoville of the Chicago-based Harza Engineering was trav-elling with Mr Brown to discuss rebuilding dams and other water resources.

The telephone giant AT&T was represented by the senior vice-president Walter Murphy, the company's top expert on global operations and telecommunications,

Chairman Claudio Elia of Air & Water Technologies was an expert in environmenwork. A top banker was on the plane, Paul Cushman, chairman of the Washingtonbased Riggs International Banking.

Obituary, page 10



AP in Beijing and Foreign Staff

CHINA is planning to build a theme park that will let visitors experience the "adventure" of an earthquake on the site of this century's worst seismic catastrophe Xinhua news agency said yesterday.

"Modern technology will be used to enable visitors to live through the adventure of shaking buildings and mov-ing land." it said, adding that the northern city of Tangshan, where an earthquake killed 240,000 people 20 years ago, has been proposed as the site of the theme park.

park planners are either con-fident that lightning will not strike twice in the same place. or believe the possibil-ity of a repeat will add to the thrill.

Revolutionary socialism is off the syllabus the volgarisation of Marx-for students who know it as 'science tion at the social level." for students who know it as 'science

fiction', writes Ray Sánchez in Havana

HE University of Havana, once a hotbed of socialist thinking, will not have any graduates specialising in Marxist phi-

like fanaticism.

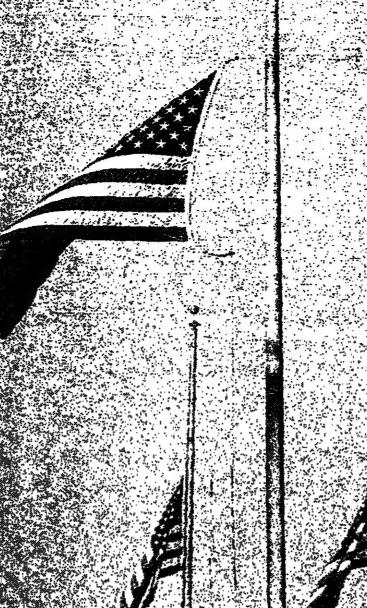
losophy this year. Students in its domed halls are no longer obliged to memorise dog-eared Soviet-published manuals of Marxist-Leninist philosophy. Seminars on "Scien tific Communism" — sarcastically remembered by professors and students as

Mr Acanda, aged 41, recalled seminars in scien-tific communism with as many as 200 students. "Marxism was not only a product of consumption. ecause it had to be consumed, but also an ideological product desired by many, because of the enthu-

siasm of the revolution." But in a country where more than half the population was born after Dr Cas tro took power in 1959, a crisis of ideology has paved the way for what Mr Acanda

called a "crisis of reason". "You can see it in the book markets," he said. book markets," he said. "The books of Marx and Lenin are worthless. No one buys them. The books

longer give them."



... A ranger lowers a flag at the Washington Monument yesterday in honour of Ron Brown PHOTOCRAPH Half-mast

Networks scorn 'party politicals'

The Guardian Friday April 5 1996

Jeff States of

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have become a big tourist attraction. drawing 2 million visitors from China and abroad. Xinhua said. The ruins are on a government protection list.

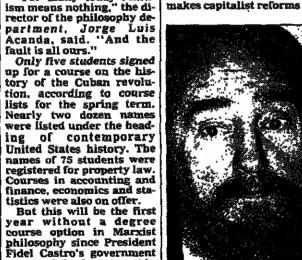
The rest of Tangshan has been rebuilt using earthfault is all ours." quake-resistant architecture. The maximum height allowed is six storeys and buildings

must be 75ft apart. Scientists admit that in 1976 some early warning signs of the earthquake were overlooked, although the Gang of Four is no longer blamed for the failure to act. A group of seismologists met 10 hours before the earthquake hit but was unable to reach a

conclusion. A leacher who was an amateur seismologist observed unusual behaviour among animals, but thought he might be laughed at by the authorities. He died in the quake the next morning. Technicians at the Mining Institute noticed a sharp rise in the water table but concluded it was the result of heavy rainfail.

More than 148,000 people were killed in Tangshan city, out of a population of about 1 million. Strict family planning rules were waived in the aftermath of the disaster and the population loss was quickly made up.

Marx (above) has dwindling followers as Castro (below) "For many today Marx-ism means nothing," the di-rector of the philosophy demakes capitalist reforms



demic training. everyone from farm worker to heart surgeon received measured doses of

socialist ideology. "In the 1980s I taught said Marxism to a class that included the national opera's orchestra director, a cin-ema manager and an office ety is most evident in the worker with a ninth-grade the first to go to work on my philosophy department, education." Mr Acanda own — selling French fries which once ensured that said. "That contributed to or something." — Newsday.

In Miami he teaches Spanish at secondary level for more money than he AP in Jakarta earned at the university but his heart is in his aca "You cannot teach philos-ophy in Cuba because thinking clashes with the

interests of the state," he Asked if his department Asian states. would survive this new era in Cuban history, Mr Acanda smiled. "I believe governor-general of Austra-lia, said that Australia was a so. If not, I would have been tolerant state compared to several of its neighbours. He

with the most value today former television presenters have many venues for canditisement the group calls fo Mark Tran in New York dates to reach the public and Walter Cronkite and Roger straightforward "talking are those dealing with the Mudd, the Republican senator 42 hours of news and many head" presentations, a forma irrational, the occult, reli Alan Simpson and the Demooccasions for politicians to that even Britain has ditched gious cults, fortune telling MERICA'S three big-Agest television net-works were resisting pressure from a high-profile in favour of "infomercials" appear in a relaxed setting. and Nostradamus. In the cratic senator Paul Simon. from Good Morning America "No tricky images. No unirrational, people search They are asking the networks to offer the leading candidates to This Week with David seen narrators. No journalfor what Marxism can no two-to-five minutes sirtime Brinkley." ists. Just the candidates makgroup of former network aneach night during the last month of the campaign. The networks reject the ar ing their best case to the biggest audience America aschormen and prominent poli-Enrique Patterson, a for gument that their unwillingmer philosophy professor living in exile in Miami, said: "T'ose books are ticians vesterday to transmit So far though, only Rupert Murdoch, owner of Fox TV, is receptive to the idea. This ness to give politicians airsembles every night. No other British-style party political relatively small change offers so much promise of raising broadcasts during peak viewtime boils down to money they will be giving up adverthere because people no longer feel the need to coming hours in the run up to Nothe level of campaign dis-course," the open letter vember's US elections. week he reiterated his chaltising time. They point out lenge to the networks to fol-low Fox's lead. The other netthat they already spend mil-lions of dollars on covering This coalition of the great promise themselves with overnment ideology. Fidel and the good has signed an open letter to ABC, CBS and NBC, which is to run as a fullproclaims. presidential politics. The Fox Castro's only interest in works have poured cold water Such a format in fact al-Marxism lies in the part on the idea. network, on the other hand. ready exists on the C-Span cable channel, which offers unadultersted, uncut camthat says a single party must control all of society." page ad in the New York Times. Its aim is to eliminate "This is something we've does not even have an evelooked at seriously in the past," an ABC official said. "We tend to believe that it's ning news programme and its willingness to give free time to politicians is a low-cost Mr Patterson, a Universithe need for venomous televipaign coverage. But the netty of Havana professor for sion advertising by political works fear that talking heads not going to solve the problem six years, settled in south Florida's exile community will only make viewers zan to rivals. gesture. The signatories include the of negative campaigning. We In the planned Times adveranother channel. riorida's exile community after what he called 10 years of "internal exile" in Cuba for making remarks critical of Dr Castro. Australia embarrassed as ex-minister calls Asian neighbours racist

nial overtones.

described the Chinese as | [in Malaysia] are largely dirt ["irresponsible". racial supremacists and the Japanese as racial exclusi-THE Australian govern-ment tried to distance it-self yesterday from the remarks made by one of its former foreign ministers that vists. Malaysia and Indonesia discriminated against the ethnic Chinese. "Indonesians don't trust the Chinese," said Mr Hay-den, who was foreign minisracism was rife in some ter in 1983-87. The Malayslan prime minister, Mahathir In an interview with Sydney radio station, Bill Hayden, who is also a former Mohamad, ran a policy "which means, very simply, racial discrimination against

tralia's most important and sensitive trading partners, Mr Hayden said: "If you want to see racism, racial intolerance. look at some of our neighbours, neighbouring Asian countries." In Malaysia several politicians lambasted Mr Hayden yesterday. One called him unscrupulous and another said the comments carried colothe Chinese in that country in education and employment opportunity ... The Indians

'We don't know what his Referring to some of Ausmotive is for making such baseless comments," the foreign ministry said. Mr Hayden's comments coincided with an announce-

ment by the Australian foreign minister. Alexander Downer, of a visit to Indoncsia. Singapore and Thailand later this month.

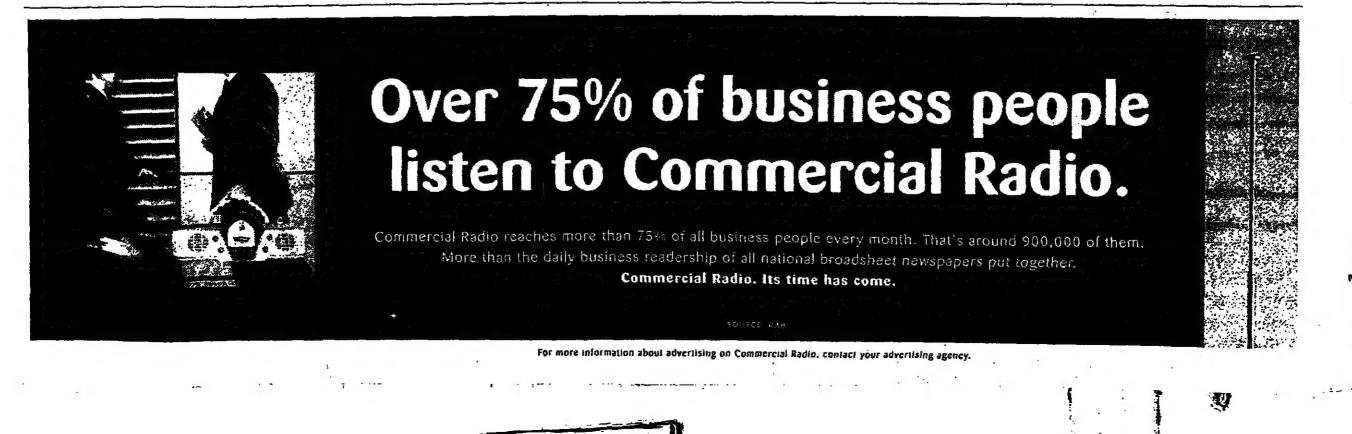
With the trip in prospect, the Australian government has been scrambling to dis-tance itself from Mr Hayden's Indonesia said he was remarks.

taking economics. As Dr Castro grudgingly introduces reforms intended to move his nearly 11 million people towards a market economy, hard times have brought politi-cal uncertainty. That anxi-ety is most evident in the

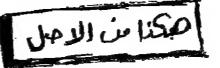
reopened the department in

1967. Only 29 students are

taking philosophy, com-pared with more than 350



الكذامن الإجل



World news in brief

Yeltsin's campaign starts with hand-outs

PRESIDENT Boris Yeltsin officially began his re-election campaign yesterday with promises of new cash handouts on a visit to Belgorod, a city 370 miles south of Moscow where his Communist rivals are strong.

rivals are strong. Mr Yeltsin smiled and looked relaxed as he mingled with crowds after being registered as a candidate for the June 16 poll. The president, aged 65, showed no sign of the bealth problems he suffered after two heart attacks last year as he shook hands with passers-by and talked to people. But the carefully staged, high security trip seemed more like a royal visit than a meet-the-people vote-winning tour. vote winning tour.

He promised to compensate investors whose savings have lost their value through the high inflation that has accompanied market reforms and pledged better grants for students and higher pensions for war veterans.

The president made no mention of an incident on Wednesday in which a sniper fired three shots near his Moscow home. Itar-Tass news agency said a building nearby had been the target, not Mr Yellsin's home. Nobody was hurt.

Mr Yeltsin gave no other details of a planned decree outlining the componsation, which could affect millions, but said be would sign it in about a week.

Sign If in about a week. His new promises were striking because he made them in a region where the Communists won 35 per cent of the votes in parliamentary elections in December and the pro-government bloc of the prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, won only 6 per cent. - Reuter, Belgorod.

Bielarus threatens diplomats

THE president of Bielarus, Alexander Lukashenko, enraged by mass rallies against his pro-Russian policies, threatened yester-day to expel diplomats attending them and deny accreditations to

journalists covering them. He said he had started "active talks" with the Russian televi-sion channels whose journalists had broadcast reports from a rally on Tuesday denouncing his signing a pact of integration with Russia. with Russia. "These Journalists will not be working here for man more days," he said.

"We have issued protests to a number of diplomats and asked them to leave our country. We will act here in unbending fashion as a sovereign and independent state. A diplomat must not march at the head of a demonstration."

About 20,000 people gathered in the capital Minsk on Taesday to attack the pact signed earlier in the day in the Kremlin by Mr Lukashenko and President Boris Yeltsin. Mr Lukashenko maintains tight control over the felevison and

radio and has sacked several newspaper editors and suspended trade unions. — Reuter, Minsk.

DRUG addiction in China is soaring, new figures showing that the number of registered addicts leapt by at least 37 per cent in 1995. By the end of last year, 520,000 addicts were registered, the China Daily quoted drug commision officials as saying. Chinese drugs experts estimate that the total number of addicts

Bai Jingfu, vice-minister of public security, said he would take tougher action against drug abuse and trafficking this year. —

HALF a million African children who die of malaria every year

could be saved by the use of mosquito nets treated with insecti-cide, according to a United Nations study released yesterday. Trials of rets treated with biodegradable insecticide reduced

malaria deaths in children under five by one-third in Kenya and

one-sixth in Ghana and the number of people who needed hospital treatment for malaria also fell. The cost --- between £3 and £5 for a net and 60p or less a year for insecticide --- would be similar to that of the global immunisation efforts against tuberculosis, measles and polio. --- Reuter, New

could be as high as one million, most of them now preferring

he . vin to opium, once China's traditional drug.

Net answer to malaria

Jam today . . . Coaches entering Florence are to be cut by 70 per cent in number — still leaving 150 a day in a city with a population smaller than Edinburgh's PHOTOGRA

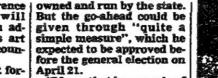
Florence tells culture vultures to book ahead **Chinese drug addiction soars**

With 500-yard queues for its top galleries, the city is laying drastic plans to control the tourist tide, writes John Hooper

ISTORS to Florence | owned and run by the state. this summer will | But the go-ahead could be have to book in ad-vance to see its art | simple measure", which he treasures, if the city council gets its way. The plan — to be put for-ward for national govern-

ment approval within a couple of weeks - forms part of a drastic programme being implemented by Florence's cen-tre-left council to relieve pressure on one of the

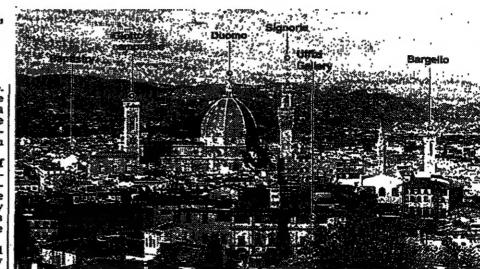
world's most congested tourist destinations. Earlier this week lors ordered a 70 per cent cut in the number of coaches entering the city's lery. "By the time you get Guido Clemente, the councillor responsible for heritage, said vestered that central government permission was needed for the reservations-only



April 21. "Thope that in a couple of weeks I shall be in a posi-tion to make an official an-nouncement," he said. The scheme could be in place by the time of the European the time of the European Union summit in Florence on June 21-22.

tian-Muslim civil war.

Mr Clemente said he had been prompted to act by 500-yard queues snaking The Uffizi houses a collec-tion built up by the Medici rulers between the 16th and 18th centuries. It includes



off the motorway," Mr Cle-mente added.

The scheme also envisages multi-entry passes, giving tourists access to several galleries and musc-ums. "It won't eliminate the problems, but it should improve matters," Mr Cle-mente said.

His plan highlights the problems faced by cities like Florence from a neverending rise in "cultural tourists". The prosperity spread by the "tiger" economies of south-cast Asia is one factor pushing up num-bers, now that worldwide recession bas faded.

On an average day in the high season, Florence with a population smaller than Edinburgh's — receives 50,000 visitors. Some 500 coaches jam into the city, most of them ille-gally parked. The cour :il this week imposed a limit of 150 per day on coaches entering the entry at any time. But they city centre. Those allowed would buy them on enter-ing the city, not at the door. in will have to park in the central car park, and pay Someone driving down to 100,000 lira (£43.50) for each entry.

WORLD NEWS 7



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SS captain sent for trial

York.

Reuter, Beijing.

A MILITARY court yesterday ordered the former SS captain Erich Priebke (right) to stand trial for war crimes for his involvement in the 1944 Nazi massacre of 335 Italian men and boys in the Ardeatine Caves outside Rome. It agreed that he should be

tried on charges of multiple homicide. The trial will open on May 8.

Mr Priebke, aged 82, was extradited in November from Argentina, where he had lived openly since 1948. He admits a role in the massacre, but says he was following orders. - Reuter,



Chernobyl cover-up fall-out

THE head of the radiation security department at the Chernobyl nuclear plant was dismissed yesterday because of an accident on November 17, which was covered up at the time. His dismissal came a day after the G7 industrialised countries increased to an billing of the formation of the plant.

22 billion an aid offer for closing the plant. Likraine's nuclear safety agency reported the accident on No-vember 27. classifying it as a minor, level one, accident. In February, it was re-evaluated at level three. - AP, Kieu.

Arafat sacks police chief

PRESIDENT Yasser Arafat yesterday dismissed the Nablus police communder. Colonel Ala Hosni, who ordered a raid on a West Bank university. Mr Arafat said he would set up special guard units for Palestinian universities.

The measures were aimed at ending protests set off by Mr Arafot's crackdown on Islamic militants after suicide bombings in Israel. - AP. Nahlus.

scheme because several gal-leries and museums — no-tably the Uffizi — were Vinci's Annunciation and

unfinished Adoration of the Magi, and works by Cima-bue, Giotto and others. A car bomb in the city centre three years ago, the progress made by the Diverse three years ago, the progress made by the Diverse three years ago, the progress made by the Diverse three years ago, the progress made by the Diverse three years ago, the progress made by the Diverse three years ago, the progress made by the Diverse three years ago, the progress made by the Diverse three years ago, the progress made by the Diverse three years ago, the progress made by the Diverse three years ago, the progress made by the Diverse three years ago, the progress made by the Diverse three years ago, the progress made by the would grant them right of which killed five people and injured 50, hit the Uffizi particularly hard, de-stroying three important 16th-century paintings and damaging countless others. Admaging countiess others. groups, at least, we should make their reservation at Although no one was ever be able to have a booking the toll station as they pull Leader comment, page 8

"clean hands" anti-corruption campaign. Details of the proposed tourist arrangements have yet to be settled. "For Florence should be able to

Chirac makes 'risky' Beirut visit Global arms talks torpedoed by Russian refusal to reveal sales

Paul Webster in Paris

HARPSHOOTERS Sguarded Beirut airport and a band played the French and Lebanese national anthems as Presi-

lent Jacques Chirac defied political and physical risks yesterday by visiting Leba-non. He was the first Western head of state to do so since the end of the 1975-90 civil war. Mr Chirac was launching a Middle East diplomatic initiaive watched nervously by other European countries, which fear a backlash.

"France will not cease to work for a just and global peace in the region. A peace which restores your country in all its sovereignty, over all its territory." Mr Chirac told the Lebanese parliament.

Mr Chirac's determination to break the deadlock that fol-lowed the end of fighting was largely inspired by the often emotional links between the Gaullist movement and the

But with Britain and Ger- | dent to make an official visit | since independence from the French mandate in 1943. many reluctant to interfere in Lebanon to avoid offending Damascus — which has effec-tively annexed the country — diplomats speculated that Mr The French head of state was welcomed by President Elias Hrawi and the prime

minister, Rafik Hariri, a close friend of Mr Chirac. Five Chirac's approach might be quixotic and untimely. Addressing parliament, the French president expressed confidence in Lebanon's future as a financial and comthousand troops were mobilised to protect the road from the airport. The highway runs alongside slums which provide refuge for the violent Muslim Hizbullah movement, responsible for kidnapping 16 French citizens in the 1980s. Mediterranean partnership. More than a billion francs Hours earlier, soldiers had removed life-size portraits of Iran's late revolutionary pa-triarch, Ayatollah Khomeini, - £125 million — in aid from government and private sources was offered to rebuild which towered over the air-Beirut, still suffering the aftermath of a 15-year Chris-

port highway. An anti-French threat was issued by the pro-Iran Hizbul-lah, which launched a bombing wave in Prance in 1986. But the greatest immediate

Before addressing parlialan Black Diplomatic Editor ment, Mr Chirac listened as the Speaker, Nabih Berri, a Shi'ite Muslim, compared the Hizbullah-led guerrilla war against Israeli occupation to

the French resistance in the second world war. "There is a difference be-

tween resistance and terror ism," Mr Berri said. "The 'The the market. Lebanese resistance was the result of Israeli occupation." countries had spent two days of acrimonious discussion in French diplomats said Mr Chirac's visit could pave the Vienna trying to hammer out an agreement on regulating exports of weapons and dualway for an eventual reconcili ation between Syria and Israel under the terms of a regional peace settlement. use technology. But diplomats said the Rus-

Until now, Europe has fol-lowed the American lead by sian and US negotiators were unable to agree on crucial eleaccepting Syria's policy as a reward for its participation on the allied side in the Gulf ments of what is known as the Wassenaar Arrangement on arms sales — a framework replacing the cold-war-era Co-ordinating Committee on Ex-War against Iraq. During his 48-hour stay, Mr

Mr Chirac has associated lowed the end of fighting was the reactor in the greatest immediate concern was that a diplomatic of method. But the greatest immediate concern was that a diplomatic of method. United the sector of the sector of the sector of the double occupation of Lebanese Christian right. But the double occupation of Lebanese Christian right. But the sector of the double occupation of Lebanese Christian right. But the sector of the se port Controls (Cocom). Russian officials said their

sale which another member government had ruled out for ts companies. Russia's non-compliance

GLOBAL talks to control the arms trade broke would mean that if Britain, for example, refused to sell a down yesterday after Russia refused to disclose sales inforpiece of sensitive equipment to Pakistan and duly notify the secretariat, Russia could mation and accused Western countries of trying to corner secretly sell the same piece of equipment, making the whole Senior officials from 31 arrangement a commercial

and political nonsense. The Soviet Union, which exported arms worth an aver-age of \$14 billion a year, lost out badly to Western rivals after cold war ended, but Russia is now set to sell \$7 billion worth this year.

A Russian official said: "They want us to open up everything, but we say it could cause disadvantages for us. We favour a reasonable degree of transparency and mutual consultation but these measures should not be detrimental to our national secu-

domestic legislation pre-vented compliance with a vented compliance with a rity interests." requirement to tell the Was-senaar secretariat about any revive the talks in July.



mercial centre and said Paris intended to play a more ambi-tious role in the Arab world to construct a European-led

the Lebanese parliament. Mr Chirac has associated

8 TheGuardian

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Will they, won't they?

The IRA can't stop the talks - but others may

WITH the 80th anniversary of the 1916 On the surface, the British and Irish Rising looming, it was not surprising governments naturally hope for an IRA that the IRA again seized the Northern Ireland headlines yesterday with its militant Easter statement. The combination of this year's resumed bombing will be no such thing. The best expectacampaign and the IRA's fondness for anniversaries, freshly spiced by things worse. The elections scheduled anniversaries, freshly spiced by Michael Howard's latest anti-terrorism legislation, all conspire to foster a tense new atmosphere in Britain this weekend. Once again, the prospects for Northern Ireland and the actions of the IRA seem to be indissolubly bound together. If a bomb goes off today, tomorrow or indeed at any time, then that link will of course seem stronger than ever.

This is exactly the situation that the IRA seeks to encourage. But it cannot be right that Anglo-Irish policy should hinge entirely on their actions. And we would also be deluding ourselves if we believed that it does. A fresh IRA bombing would naturally be an indefensible and provocative act of destruction with political consequences. But what would it tell us that we don't already know well? Nothing. We know that the IRA is committed to the so-called armed struggle in pursuit of its republican objectives. We also know that it wants to take part in negotiations towards those ends. But it is not true that the Northern Ireland political process de-pends on whether there is a bombing or not. The IRA ceasefire is over anyway, and the political process goes on more or less regardless.

Another meeting between Sir Patrick Mayhew and Dick Spring merits few headlines these days, especially by comparison with a bit of IRA sabre-rattling. Yet this week in Dublin, the two ministers again got down to the detailed preparations for all-party talks. The is not how to stop Sinn Fein dictating reality is that the IRA's actions and the agenda and destroying the process, Northern Ireland political develop- but how to stop the Unionists from ments are parallel rather than opposed.

ceasefire to ease the next phase of negotiations. Underneath, however, they work on the assumption that there for the end of next month will go ahead. whether Sinn Fein decides to participate in them or not. The June 10 talks will start as appointed, regardless of whether Sinn Fein takes part.

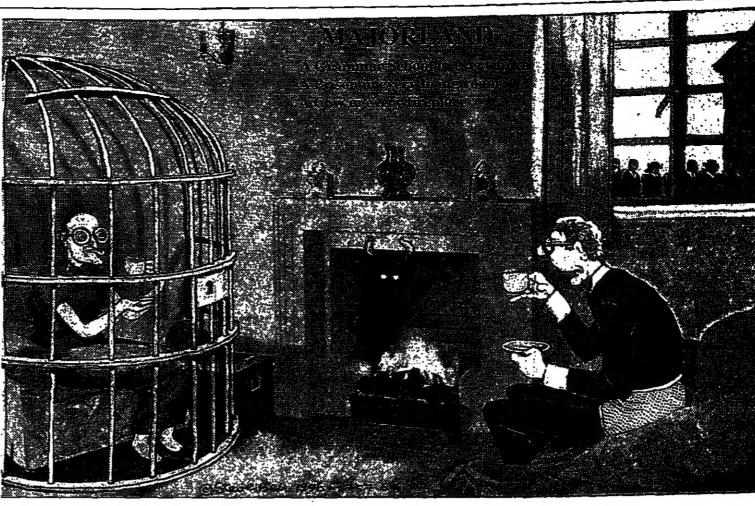
This week's byelections in the Irish Republic make it more likely that this untidy but realistic state of affairs will continue. The Dublin government parties, particularly Mr Spring's Labour Party, took a hammering from the opposition Flanna Fail, thus increasing the pressure for results and for a less exclusionary approach to Sinn Fein. Meanwhile Sinn Fein's own modestly improved showing, doubling its share of the poll in both byelections (while still remaining firmly in single figures), makes it more of a stakeholder in the process. These results will strengthen the pressures on the IRA not to proceed with fresh bombings.

None of this means that the Northern Ireland elections, when they take place, will feed seamlessly into the talks process as optimistically intended in London and Dublin. Nor does it mean that the all-party talks, when they begin, will be in any way straightforward. The British government has already begun trying to alter the mechanics of the talks to make the procedure more acceptable to the Ulster Unionists. There is also a real danger that the talks will immediately collapse on June 10 over the decommissioning question. In some respects the biggest unsolved problem doing the same thing.

Armed for all eventualities

Weapons sales are as lucrative as ever for the big powers

WHEN arms control talks break down, France, Germany, Italy, Russia and it is supposed to be bad news. But Britain. In normal language this is a vesterday's derailment of the Vienna cartel. The philosophy behind it is well talks is not a devastating event - conveyed by Britain's claim that it



and the second second

Letters to the Editor

The wrong arm of the law Why lone parents don't want child support from the agency

search laws potentially being used against mainstream, extra-parliamentary dissent (Letters. April 2) already have substance. Over the past three months, 768 people have been arrested for protesting against the Newbury bypass. You reported on March 27 that the Association of Chief

that the Association of Chief Police Officers has requested the support of the anti-terrorist branch to "gather intelli-gence" about environmental activists, specifically those from Newbury. How long will it be before the Newbury pro-testers (and others identified in videos of the Friends of the Earth march in February) be-come the subject of

Newbury has been the most recorded (filmed) protest ever. Will this footage be used to identify individuals in the fashion of football hooliganism? What of the Reliance security guard filmed beating up Balln with his shield on the national news?

What criteria will be used for those enacting these new powers? Long hair, dreadlocks withdrawn. Diane Abbott MP. or earings? A name like Balin, Arthur, Pendragon or Ben Moon? Membership of Green-Harry Cohen MP. Lee Jasper. peace or Friends of the Earth? Being a mountaineer, an ar-National Assembly Against Racism: t or a druid? An Atma Sin

ing protesters)? Or for writing

a letter such as this to a

6A Stratford Road, Cosgrove,

Northants MK197JA.

R C A GEARTY'S fears about the new "anti-terrorist" stop-and-search laws potentially being "stop and search" will send (Letters, April 4). He claims (Letters, April 4). He claims that the new powers given to the police "will not prevent all terrorist attacks. But they shivers of alarm through black communities across Britain. No opportunity has been provided for debate or consideration of the likely efmight succeed in permitting the early detection of some fects of the new powers. Such powers have in the past, as with the notorious This is justification enough for these extra powers". (My

"SUS" laws, resulted in unjust and discriminatory treatment Is there to be no rational discussion at all? No terrorist of the black communities, alattacks were detected by the ready suffering under in-Prevention of Terrorism Act. creased police powers. Taken together with the internal con-If the vague possibility of such a crime being detected "is justification enough" for powers which will be virtually un-challengeable, there is no logitrols contained in the Asylum and Immigration Bill they may well worsen relations between black communities and the police. cal ground for refusing to allow the police to use the techniques of interrogation, such as hooding and sensory Given the recent black

deaths in custody and wide-spread uncase about the po-tential for abuse of CS gas and deprivation, which were used in Northern Ireland until they US-style long-handled batons, were condemned by the Euro it is time that serious atten-tion was given to resolving the pean Court of Human Rights as inhuman and degrading.

When the new measures fail, as they inevitably will, what further police powers will John Hutton and his colproblems which already exist ather than risking exacerbating them further. The new powers should be repealed, and CS gas and long-handled batons should be leagues tamely accept? Malcolm Hurwitt.

61 Minterne Avenue, Southall, Middx UB2-HP.

the Child Support Agency are claiming benefits fraudulently (Defiance may cost lone moth-

ers dear, April 3), The Government's proposal to double the current benefit penalty for lone parents who do not co-operate with the agency appears to be based on the findings of a survey con-ducted as part of a review of the requirement for lone parents to cooperate with the agency unless they can show they should be exempt. But the researchers themselves point out that the sample used for the survey was not statisti-

cally significant. If the benefit reduction betify imposing draconian penalties on a further 50,000 a year. Fraud was suspected or established in less than half of the sample. Fifty thousand lone parents could receive a benefit penalty, without evidence of In education, ministers fraud, and among them will be many who are genuinely at risk of violence or real distress and fear for themselves and their children.

Fraud, of course, must be AM confused. Is the Guard-ian which criticises son between the Benefits Labour's approach to the Pre-Agency and the CSA to comin of Terrorism (Add

T IS highly dangerous to as parents and their children. sume that lone parents who More severe penalties would have not communicated with not add to incentives to ensure the Child Support Agency are co-operation. What would help would be an efficient and effective assessment and col-lection service that would inspire lone-parent confidence

Pel

pre

in the system. Karin Pappenheim. Director.

National Council for **One-Parent Families** 255 Kentish Town Road, London NW5 2LX

HAVE talked to a wide range of parents about the practi-cal effects of the Child Support Act on their lives. It is clear that women who opt for the benefit penalty, or who argue for an exemption rather than comes policy, the findings of co-operate with the CSA, do interviews with 72 lone not find this an easy option parents could be used to jus. They do it for the emotional They do it for the emotional well-being of their children; to maintain the delicate balance of relations with their ex-partner; or to avoid an ex-parimer

loudly proclaim the virtues of parental choice, but parents on benefit have no choice about CSA intervention in their family life. For many parents-with-care, avoiding

the CSA is a damage-limita i tion exercise Jean Betteridge.

do nothing to curb the global traffic in | death. The central aim of the "Wassenaar arrangement" is to keep weapons and "dual use" technology out of the hands of a few rogue countries such as Iraq or North Korea. Successor to the cold war COCOM regime which pursued a similar policy towards the communist bloc, it is not designed to reduce arms sales but to target the bad guys. Only the names have changed.

Russia is anxious to boost arms exports in order to alleviate its economic problems. Arms orders for this year have risen to \$7 billion against only \$2.8 billion last year - though this is still far below average annual sales of \$14 billions by the former Soviet Union. The US is equally keen to maintain and preferably increase its own much higher market share. President Clinton's directive last year on conventional arms transfer policy included "enhancing the ability of the US defence industrial base to meet US de-fence requirements." US arms sales agreements in 1994 totalled \$12 billion, and the Pentagon predicts that the world share should increase from about half to 63 per cent by the year 2000.

The Wassenaar Arrangement has 28 countries representing most major arms producers. But it has been dominated by a "small group" of six: the US,

because even if successful they would seeks to enhance international stability address in Newbury (for feedthrough a "responsible" policy of arms sales - and also to "ensure a level playing field for British industry. national newspaper? (Dr) Tim Oxley.

For a few sober seconds after the Gulf War, the big dealers swallowed hard and said they would exercise restraint in marketing conventional weapons. The October 1991 Paris communiqué of the Permanent Five produced an eightpoint list of self-denying conditions which has been largely ignored. Under international pressure a UN register of conventional arms was established in the same year. In 1995 only half of the world's countries provided data for this voluntary record which has no provision for monitoring or enforcement. It shows that the US and Russia have been joined by Germany as the world's largest arms exporters. Countries receiving tanks, armoured vehicles and fighter aircraft in 1994 included such cases of stability as Cambodia, Angola, Nigeria and Turkey. The breakdown of the talks arises

from Russia's reluctance to provide advance information which might preiudice its access to markets of which the US disapproves. It is not a dispute over the ethics of selling arms to countries which cannot afford and do not need them. On this there is sadly no dispute: arms "transfers" - the word "sales" is avoided - are still a jolly good thing.

Something had to be done. Earlier

In the past, Italians managed to frus-

More room for a view

The Florentines are causing a fine old Firenze

DEMAND to view the world's art treasures hugely outstrips the supply of this year, the Florentines ordered a 70 per cent cut in the number of coaches opportunities to see them, as those who allowed into the city's narrow streets. have queued for hours outside the Tate Gallery's Cézanne exhibition this spring will confirm. But if conditions Now a reservations-only policy is proposed for entry into the city's galleries - including the Uffizi, Bargello and Pitti. And Italian churches are increasoutside the Tate sometimes seem frustrating, they will soon be as nothing to ingly contemplating the hitherto un-thinkable - charging for entry to view those which the city of Florence now seeks to impose on its visitors.

The days have long gone in which it their frescos and carvings. was possible to wander through Flortrate visitors by the expedient of closence like a character from an EM ing buildings for long lunch hours or by Forster novel, with or without a Baedelocking their treasures away in resker. The culture vulture visitation in tauro. To this day, far too many Italian galleries — including the Uffizi — dis-Italy's great historic centres at peak times of the year now regularly amounts to an infestation by the human play only a fraction of their collections. The new schemes are the latest in an species. Venice and Florence are barely extensive repertoire devised by Italians worth entering in the summer months to deter visitors from reaching the art so crammed have they become with treasures. But if they think this will backpackers, touring parties and though not in the case of Venice, of prevent a nation of queuers like the course --- their vehicles. British, they underestimate us.

Contra-dicted FRANCIS COTTAM's analy-sis of male (ir)responsibil-ity in sexual relationships is incomplete (The pill men find hard to swallow, April 3). Sexual intercourse with a male-pill user may protect a

woman against pregnancy but this is only one of several po-tential unwanted consequences of sexual intercourse between men and women. Sexually-transmitted infections, pelvic inflammatory disease, sub-fertility, cervical cancer and HIV are equally avoidable.

Male opinion-shapers such as Mr Cottam should address exual health holistically, finding ways to persuade his stereotypical holidaying hooligans, squaddies, gym junkies and boy racers to use condoms in their sexual relationships in order to prevent other un-wanted sequelae of sexual in-tercourse. That might be a real breakthrough in inprov-ing sexual health in the 1990s. Martin Jones.

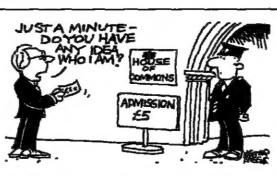
Kinfauns Avenue, Sastbourne, Sast Sussex BN22.

A FTER years of running the Agamut of devices and pills while searching for the perfect contraceptive (or at least, the least unacceptable), I have found that fertility awareness enables me to recognise the continuous signals from my continuous signals from my body during my monthly cycle, freeing me to use artifi-cial contraception only on the few days that I actually need it. It is efficient, easy, safe and

satisfying The sympto-thermal method of natural family planning is recognised to be as effective as the pill — the Family Plan-ning Association rates it at up to 98 per cent — without any side-effects. Yet ver few GPs understand the method and do not discuss it with patients seeking advice. The solution is to teach our emerging teenage girls at school to understand their bodies, recognize the signals, and take pride in the effective functioning of their bodies. Abigall Hall. Alidens Lane.

Godalming, Surrey GUS.

National Black Alliance tional Powers) Bill the same Helen Shaw & Deborah Coles. Guardian which backed the introduction of intermment in Co-directors, Inquest. John Wadham. Northern Ireland in 1971? Stephen Doherty. 25 Five Acres, Strabane, Director, Liberty, c/o 28 Commercial Street. Co Tyrone BT82 SJD. London E2



Cash-for-questions at the House

THE claim that a 25 entry nalise those at fault, not the general public by charging ment (April 4) would do away with the "inappropriate" parliament building. black economy within the Name and address supplied.

building appears to be a crafty way of combining two sepa-rate issues. While pretending HE proposal to charge for a rate issues. While pretending to be cleaning up sleaze, the Serjeant-at-Arms is going to raise himself a tidy income of tour of Parliament strikes the right chord at this time of our national history. The senior attendants should be John Major, Tony Blair and Currently, if you hire a guide, the usual fee is \$20 for a ster's glorious history as the site of the supreme law-mak-ing body of the United King-dom. However, the charge should not be 55 but 30 silver group of up to 16 people: this is usually paid direct to the Euros, to be shared between the three attendants.

> Director, The Freedom Association, 35 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB.

We regret we cannot acknowledge receipt of letters. We may edit them; shorter latters are more likely to appear

From nags to riches

COMING from other news-papers, Roy Greenslade (Cross the r's, dot the i's, pocket the exes, April 4) is unsome personal risk), was ordered to itemise in detail his considerable expenses. With some ill grace, he submitted a claim with the item: To taking aware of the Guardian's own contributions to the tradition horse up in lift ... 2600. Now there was a man who of imaginative expense claims. When I was a young wouldn't stoop to bogus lunches with nubile actresses. The legend said the claim was never questioned. Even if apocryphal it catches the flahopeful on the paper, and the Guardian presente in London was a set of grubby rooms in Fleet Street, senior staff didn't muck about. your of the great days of Fleet The story relished at that Street

Wint, who, back from a pro-longed Asian trip (made at

...The CSA's Yo LOLD PU deliver maintenance to Ione | Manchester M35 0SJ.

The tame and lame hit back

TAKE issue with Professor | find this description as offen sive as I do. I have been a Vic Allen and Trevor Fisher Labour supporter for 60 or more years and no leader has (Letters, April 2) over Tony Blair's plans to ballot Labour ever before asked my opinion on anything. Even if I can say no more than "yes" or "no" to Party members on a pre-mani festo document. Why are they so grudging and griping? You would think that Tony Blair Tony Blair's pre-election manifesto, that in itself will be a welcome and significant step was the enemy rather than John Major. If some of our towards greater democracy in members are more equal than others, and if we don't trust them, how do we expect the the party. Eric Bourne. The Croft, Milldale, electorate to trust us? This move opens up for the first time direct involvement

Alstonefield Ashbourne, and ownership of the mani-festo to 350,000 ordinary party members. Most importantly, it Derbyshire DE6 2GB.

PROFESSOR Allen is frightened that "tame" Labour Party members are going to be brainwashed by their newspapers and TV into supporting our leader's manifesto. I sometimes wonder how I ever man-aged to join the party in the first place, given my obvious susceptibility to media indoc-trination. Mr Blair is offering a truly democratic manifes for the first time ever.

ACCORDING to Professor Allen I am a tame, lame member of the Labour Party, I Phil Woodford. hope that other members will London N4.

A Country Diary

commits Labour to deliver. Those who have been given

unford Road

NORTHUMBERLAND: We are | Till "These calamities are sad bridge at Mitford and plodging in the shallows of the Wans-beck river bank. Six years since its launch, Northumber-banks have been fenced off from cattle and planted with from cattle and planted with willow, birch, hedges and shrubs. Many artificial holts land Wildlife Trust's bid to attract otters back to our rivers is succeeding. Martin have been completed and Twiss, the Otter Project war-den, finds a spraint on a fallen log in the river a hundred show evidence of occupation. After a picnic lunch, our yards from the centre of Mor-peth; we gather round to examine it and sniff the fishy aroma. "An other can have a So-mile territory with several holts," he tells us. "It will swim a watercourse running right through a town." Otters are at the top of the aquatic food chain and their presence in a river system is an indica-tion of its well-being. To find othery signs you look under the banks of the

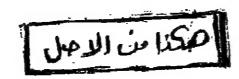
Not under the banks of the river, not on them, amongst tree roots, rocky ledges and shingle beaches. Four others have recently been killed on roads in this county and two more orphan cubs rescued since the dramatic rescue of the twins three wears seen from John Pilgrim. John Pilgrim. 7 Magdalen Drive, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 4EF.

.

party moves on to Hartburn, six miles up the Wansbeck valley to continue the search for pug marks and spraints. No one is expecting to see a ring of bright water on this sleek, dark head gliding through the water leaving the characteristic V in its wake is more likely to be witnessed at dusk or dawn.

dusk or dawn. One of our party had recently seen an other on the North Tyne river. "I was fish-ing alone," he told us. "And got a perfect view of the ani-mal which floated and dived among weeds and never saw me." So often it is solitary anglers who do see others. VERONICA HEATH VERONICA HEATH

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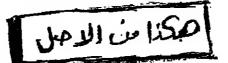


guide. Imposing a £5 entry fee will no doubt end this prac-tice. However, it will also force schools to pay about £150 to take a class of children around, something which they Gerald Hartup. can presently do for free. I accept there has to be some striction on the numbers of restriction on the numbers on people getting in each day, as the building is primarily a working one. But, if the Ser-jeant at Arms has a problem

with tax evasion, he should contact the authorities and pe-

ownership will be most an noyed if it is taken away by a government that fails to deliver its promises. Glyn Ford MEP.

Mossley, Lancs OL5 0BE.



Peter

Preston

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Diary Matthew Norman

HE DIARY (note how it's always that imper-sonal entity, and never the personal pronoun, at such moments) is in disgrace. A Home Office press person calls to report that prisons minister and voluble Papist Ann Widde-combe is is "a bit miffed". She is not, after all, spending Easter on a Club 18-50 pleasure jaunt (a "sbag-fest", in her own ribald argot) to Corfu. In fact, she is making a four-day pris-ons tour, and will be duty minister. (Michael Howard was originally scheduled in, but his mother Hilda has sent a sick note to Number 10. saying he was in danger of developing one of his colds.) "Miss Widdecombe has never been to Corfu, is not going to Corfu and has no plans to go to Corfu," says the press officer. (I sense an opening for a cer-tain island's Tourist Board.) "She's a bit miffed at your mistake because she'll be working right through the holiday." Oh dear, will she have no time for prayer at all? "She usn-ally fits in a couple of church services, and I'm sure she will this year." Phew. But not on Cor-phew? "No, no, no. Definitely not on Corfu

F Miss Widdecombe's Fison tour takes in Highdown, she may well meet my old friend Razor Smith, who is there doing a long spell of Her Majestypleasuring for armed rob-bery. Razor is known as a poet, and especially for the much admired Old Lags, in which he memorably paro-died the innocence-protest-ing inmate as follows: "It's funny you should ask/ I'm here for what I didn't do/ I didn't wear a mask." In the new edition of Prison Writing, however, he chooses prose in which to deliver useful careers advice. "The greatest assets any bouncer can bring to the job are a sense of humour, plenty of patience, the ability to appreciate the absurd." Razor writes, "and a good quality knuckleduster. I favour the brass type (without spikes) and I always go for the body . . .'

HE winner of the competition to run a mile of the Flora London Marathon with Charles Kennedy, the radio personality who carns pin money moon-lighting as a LibDem MP. is the supremely well-named H H Asquith of west London. Mr Asquith guesses the MP's weight at 171 pounds n an official o more th



They made him seem remark-able. But they only had half the prophesies came to dust the ingredients for a real In his small, compact. Commentary Zorza salad. Journalists like to think of themselves as professionals - doctors, lawyers, that sort of thing. Wrong. They're tradesmen and sometimes the

trade is rough. Victor, though, was the nearest thing to a professional man I ever encountered on the Guardian. He was always unique; he

WWE CALLED it the Zorza salad and I guess my children will remember it for as long as they live. A bit of everything to hand. Diced chunks of cucumber, carrot, apple, cauliflower and or-apper radishes spring onlogs He was always unique; he was usually impossible. The analyses emerged from a tight-packed reference and monitoring library on the sunless side of Dairy Cottage. They were not light reading. Nor could they in any way be sub-edited. let alone short-ened. Cutting meant dispens-ing with the evidence gleaned day-by-day from Pravda. Tass. Izvestia and the routine ange; radishes, spring onions, grapes, mushrooms, maybe a few dates and nuts, with the lightest of vinaigrette dress-ings. Victor used to make it Tass, Izvestia and the routine outpourings of the Soviet news machine. Victor dealt in significant half sentences of himself for lunch, to be eaten with roast chicken on this steep, grassy slope down from Dairy Cottage to the big green pond lying listless on the hotfacts or chilly adjectives, facts or chilly adjectives, building a picture of what was happening inside the Kremlin from what those on the outside were told. How could that be *cuf?* "But look." I said one difficult night, "it fills the whole bloody page and it's still 20 inches over." "What else is there on the page?" he asked. "Nothing but an ad." "Right," said Zorza. 'you must drop the adtest of summer days. I was catching a plane to the Middle East a formight ago when the news of Victor Zorza's death came through.

You paused, and sucked the air a little. The obituarists (here and elsewhere) did splendidly. They told of the young Pole who escaped the Nazis, came to England and became the Journalist of Sev-Zorza, "you must drop the ad-vertisement." He was infieral Years for his uncanny nitely stubborn. He played off Kremlinology. They saw him off to America and a syndihis politics like a street fighter. He remembered his triumphs of prediction. (Gol-

bustling way, he was like some masterful heart surgeon pounding through crowded wards, harassed juniors trailing in his wake.

I never, to be honest, quite believed in the technique. It seemed to rest on the belief that every semi-colon in soviet Foreign Ministry had been weighed and balanced by experts to drop plangent clues as though for some in-

ternational power game. I couldn't credit that anyone -even Pravda - could produce a newspaper that way, with out chaos or undeliberate mistakes or columns of lead type dropped on the compos-ing-room floor by some vodka-racked timehand as deadlines neared. "Sure, said Victor impatiently, "perhaps that happens sometimes Perhaps that's when my ana

lyses go wrong." The heart-surgeon bit was not without ironies. In the late 70s after Victor had left the Guardian and gone to America, he returned to say the doctors did not give his own heart more than a couple of years. Kremlinology was a dying duck. He didn't wish to spend his last months brooding over its entrails. "The Third World is the new world. I'm going to move there and work there." We talked South America. We talked Africa. We settled on India. Not the cated column, then to India to triumphs of prediction. (Gol-live and write from a peasant village, then to Moscow to found and fund a hospice. Red Army rolled into Prague.) know that — and, indeed, was sible for his finding his lost

vivor, the last one left. But his sister had come through too and made it eventually to isenterprises, a package of funding — with some myste-rious chunks of UN money thrown in at the beginning. The village column came to the Guardian (and other cli-ents around the world) then rael where one day, nearly rael where one day, nearly half a century later, she read about this Pole who had writ-ten newspaper articles from an Indian village. "If you hadn't sent me." Victor wrote, "that would never have happened." They had been re-united. It was an amazing cap to an amazing life pottered off to the Times in one of those mild severances one of those mild severances where money was a half-issue. I didn't think it quite worked. Victor's prose (ex-cept, magically, in the book he wrote with his wife about the hospice death of their only daughter, Jane) was spare and serviceable. He could not often make the rhythms of peasant life beat with emotion. But as failures go, it was magnificent failure. life. What followed seemed al most automatic. Why not write the story of your sister for the Guardian? I said. Then

you can write about the hos-pice too and I bet, knowing our readers, that some of them will help to keep the nurses paid. He came back immediately. He was in a go, it was magnificent failure. And then, silence. He popped up again once the Berlin Wall fell down, of immediately. He was in a wheelchair, as he'd been for a couple of years, and a little tired. But, yes. He would write that piece. It was the natural thing. Later in February he wrote again. He was feeling stron-gar. He was turning to the article. Expect it imminently. Instead there was the news of

Victor was the nearest thing to a professional man l ever encountered on the Guardian levolent unconcern for the

slowly dying. He was going to short just one, then another, hospice. He was out of jour-nalism for ever as the old heart ticked on. wedged determinedly in whatever door might be half open --- the mixture of charm, courage and sheer chuizpah that took him from the detri-tus of Poland to awards and Last summer he wrote again from Dairy Cottage, of-fering us a Sunday in the sun. scoops and the paraphernalia of a career in journalism that lives in the memory. If he had

tering us a Sunday in the sun. It was not alas, possible: and so the letter in November stood in sharper relief. Victor was looking for funds, hos-pice cash to keep doctors and nurses paid by the month. When he called, he wanted written that last article about his sister for you, it would have said that contributions to the hospice fund could be sent to the British-Russian Hospice Society, 279 Ivydale Road, London SE15 3DZ. I am sure Victor would have wanted me to mention that.



Bel Littlejohn HATTERED, literally Shattered That's how I felt after watching my first Dennis Potter play on television all those years ago. I forget its name, but it in-volved a naked blind girl being raped to the music of Fred Astaire and Ginger Rog-ers. Its effect was so over-whelming that when it was over I found it quite hard to concentrate on the repeat of I Love Lucy that followed, though after a reviving glass of dry white I sat back and enjoyed some bloody good laughs with that lovely old stalwart of TV comedy. "Bloody": that's a word I couldn't have used in journal-ism before Dennis Potter ame along. Now I can bloody well use it as much as I want I find it places emphasis on the anger I feel at the way this Instead there was the news of his death, a private funeral for the family. a memorial The rank and the second and the seco the evidence: to recall his head cocked to one side, ban-tam chest thrust out, foot

provided excellent grounding for his subsequent career, teaching him structure and character development. "Evenin' fuckin' all," begins the amiable George Dixon in Potter's first scripted episode for the series. Dixon then con-tinues in his soft, avuncular voice: "You know, folks, some-times in a police force there crops up what we ordinary coppers call a 'bad apple'. Shifty types, without a shred of ordinary human honesty.

You can spot 'em a mile off. PC Arthur Bent was one such, and blow me down if his bobby wasn't raping naked blind girls to the tunes of Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers." Unbelievably, this script proved so far abead of its time that BBC bosses refused to let

it be transmitted without massive changes. Eventually, Arthur Bent was turned into a Good Apple and given a fresh hobby — betting on the grey-hounds. But 10 years later Pot-ter was able to use the germ of bis buillingt into a state and the failth shockingly memorable Pen-nies From Heaven, and that they should wear Lycra cy-cling shorts purchased exclu-sive in potter's shockingly memorable Pen-nies From Heaven, and that they should wear Lycra cy-cling shorts purchased exclu-sive in potter's a shockingly memorable Pen-nies From Heaven, and that they should wear Lycra cy-cling shorts purchased exclu-sively from Milletts.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS 9 reported angry when the car that picked him up at the air-port lacked air conditioning. It was, like most Zorza ind thought he was the only sur-

suited to scripting the links on Songs Of Praise. But here, too, there were undeniable hiccups. The first to make his objections plain was the Bishop of Leicester, the Rt Rev Roger Birtwhistle, who vehemently refused to introduce the well-loved fam-ily hymn All Things Bright

came along. Now I can bloody well use it as much as I want. I find it places emphasis on the anger I feel at the way this world is going. And anger is an emotion Potter knew one helluva lot about. As is well known, Potter started his career as a TV playwright writing episodes of Dixon Of Dock Green. This provided excellent grounding whenever I feel an attack of

whenever I feel an attack o complacency coming on, I slot the Singing Detective into the video; within minutes I can congratulate myself on shed-ding all my complacency.

> T was typical of the man that he should broadcast his dying wishes to Mel-vyn on camera. First, he de-manded that his final two plays be produced and broad-off camera, but no less force fully — that BBC boss John Birt and Channel 4 boss Michael Grade should set off together on a bicycling holi-day in the New Forest on a tandem bought jointly by their two companies. He fur-ther insisted that the two should stop at all the land-

> > The two bosses were only



figure that does credit to the former gut-bucket's fitness campaign.

OR sale lately have been loft apartments in the Beaux-Arts Building on Islington's busy Holloway Road. "Enjoy the fine art of loft living from only £91." it says at the top of the Ballymore Properties fly sheet. It begins with familiar stuff --- "state-ofthe-art amenities, exquisite detail and generous proportions", that kind of guff until. without warning. it breaks new ground. "Naturally-external rhythm," it says. Naturally-external says. Naturally-external rhythm ... what can this be? At Ballymore Proper-tics, a man was very helpful. "I have no idea," he said. It couldn't possibly mean "lots of noisy traffic". could it? "Er, um. I'm not at all sure. I. er,"

N what must surely be a bid to ressurect his image, David Ashby, the Tory MP who shared a bed with a male friend on holiday to save a few guid and brought financial ruin upon himself as a result, will be a guest when Have I Got News For You returns to BBC2 in a fortnight. Other guests in the series will include the monstrously talented Janet Street-Porter and Rupert Allason (the MP who will sue anyone who calls him "the most litigious man in England"). As for David Ashby, who must have been keeping his wit in check for just such an opportunity, we salute him. The line be-tween courage and foolishness can be very hard to spot. We admire his vision, and wish him luck.

URTHER evidence emerges that Lionel Blair is indeed the uncle of the Labour leader. The hoofer's leftwing credentials have been greatly strengthened by the news that his dog goes by the name of Eric.





Members only

GREED

Patrick Donovan argues that a building society going public, far from encouraging boardroom greed, is likely to root out

abuse. Below, Hector Laing laments the decline in British business ethics

OU might have ex-pected such a ven-erable organisa-tion as the be far easier to exploit by tion as the Woolwich Buildfinancially motivated execuing Society to operate a much tighter system of ethics than tives than their stockmarketlisted equivalents.

the conventional Stock Ex-change listed company. After all, the home-loans giant is part of the mutual-society change listed company. After all, the home-loans giant is part of the mutual-society movement, an enlightened system through which organi-investing "members". There are no shares or profits to distribute to rapacious City investors. And yet the story of

To many outside the charmed world of the execu-

earning relatively modest sal-aries, pocketed unacceptably high pay-rises after their share listing. And such list-ings among the staff to boost the attraction to potential in-subjected itself to the intense high pay-rises after their share listing. And such list-ings inevitably involve sack-ings among the staff to boost the attraction to potential inscrutiny of City investors. Or if they had been uncovered, there would have been far vestors. But the flip side of this is that any company put-ting itself up for a stockmarket listing is subjected to the most detailed auditing conless pressure on the remain-ing management to undergo the huge embarrassment of making a public statement. Much cant is talked about trols. The preparation of a flotation prospectus involves teams of bankers and accountants of painters and account tants examining in minute de-tail every aspect of its finan-cial affairs. Ironically, it was this very

they have many passionate and genuine supporters. But as the Robinson saga has shown, companies which are process which uncovered the allegations against Peter Rob-inson. For the Woolwich is not directly responsible to demanding shareholders may be far more vulnerable to abuse by their top directors. The Woolwich may nomi-

who lend it money. But the practical result is that direc-tors such as Robinson enjoy comparatively untrammelled power in the way they run their businesses. Robinson was not even required to ob-tain a counter-signature for his expense accounts. This is a world where a chief executive is an absolute law to himself. This kind of behaviour would be highly unlikely within most big listed compa

nies. This is the fatal flaw of "alternative" or "co-opera-tive" businesses. Such businesses ultimately rely on trust. But real life does not work like that: these types of business are an open invita-tion to abuse.

the "worthiness" of mutual societies, co-operatives and the like. Of course they all have laudable objectives, and make a swift buck and hang the consequences. The Square Mile may be reviled for en-couraging greed; but the markets operate on a cynical and entirely accurate apprecia-tion of human nature. That is why any large-scale experi-ment in business ethics will never work well over the longer term nally be owned by the people | longer term.

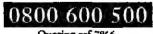
his brilliant idea in 10 separate drama series — and to devastating effect,

too eager to comply with Pot-ter's demands rather than be thought in any way churlish or cowardly. This morning, I received a chatty postcard After an unhappy time drafting unused scripts for the presenters of BBC TV's Blue Peter programme ("This fuckin' balsa wood's bloody useless for makin' bleedin' from the two of them, sent from exactly the spot where the blind girl was raped to the music of Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire in Pennies From traction engines." says Chris-topher Trace at a crucial motopher Trace at a crucial mo-ment, to which the youthful Valerie Singleton replies sim-ply but effectively: "Shut your gob, arschole."), Potter was Heaven. Potter was a visionary who despised more than anything the mute acceptance of dictatorial commands. It is Boby a finite of the BBC up to all of us in the media to Religious Affairs department. prove him right, and to do Here he at first seemed ideally whatever he wanted.

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On our worst behaviour

= VERYBODY needs a | if that society does not take | of principle. Beliefs and bible or a reference | a longer-term view to coin- | values must always come

means — as it did to me when I was chairman of United Biscuits — a com-pany ethics policy. That policy, which should be signed by the chairman and chief executive, should chief executive, should meeting and was widely cover all those things briefed inside the company. which management believe in it I wrote: "Some em-to be essential to the ethical ployees might have the min operation of the company. It seems to me that in care how results are ob-It seems to me that in care now results are ob-today's world, too much tained as long as we get tained as long as we get results. This would be wrong. We do care how we get results. We expect com-little on the values which benefit company and of integrity throughout the emphasis is put on self, money and expediency — ic short-termism — and too little on the values which benefit company and country in the longer term. I believe the cause can be traced to a society which are not likely to be possible

before policies, practices and goals. The latter must be altered if they violate fundamental beliefs." Our ethics policy covered

personnel, suppliers (in that section we said that our accounts would be paid on time), competitors, confidentiality, conflicts of in-terest and the community, With a company employing some 40,000 people and having a turnover of about £3 billion, we may from time to time have offended

ency is a slippery slope. We that we are not getting also seem to have forgotten things right. Our companies need to place more em-phasis on character and that a company's ethics come from the stature of the leadership in that com-pany. Management is imleadership, and perhaps less on pure intellectual portant, but leaders are achievement. We need to essential, as Viscount Slim of Burma said.

challenge our attitudes as a matter of prgency. In part this is up to the Leaders must stand out ahead of others morally and in every way. Leader-ship needs to start at school, and be taught and trained at every stage in which noonly approaches owners of a company - and our institutional shareholders were always telling me they were the owners to take more interest in a which people progress in business. Those who remember the second world company's ethics, its in vestment levels, and the amount it spends on war know how essential research and development. was the leadership of a second lieutenant or a com-It is not a losing battle. For if people who belong to a manding officer; that form company know that the company has ethics and stands by them, they will of leadership is perhaps work more effectively and

> Lord Laing of Dunchail was chairman and chief executive of United Biscuits until 1990. He is former president of the institute

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10 OBITUARIES

Ron Brown

Clinton's smooth dealer

brownik aged 54, was the smartest operator in the Democratic Party. He arranged things, he Party. He arranged utings, he got things done, with a style and success that no one else had managed in 20 years. In 1988, he ran Jesse Jackson's campaign for the presidency, and at just the right moment had his candidate bow the knee to his rival, Michael Dukakis. In 1992, suavely and smoothly, he eased Jackson out of the way to make the nominating convention into a love-fest for Bill Clinton.

He was the personification of the Washington insider-lobbyist-politician, like Robert Strauss of Texas, who was one of his predecessors as chairman of the Democratic Party. The difference was that Brown was black, with a strong claim to be the most successful black politician in the country. He was also a highly suc-

cessful businessman, of the deal-making variety, and his skill at conjuring large sums of money out of a few phone calls got him into serious trouble. The Wall Street Journal, which attacks President Clinton and his administration with unrelenting fervour, once asserted that Brown's Washington was a place of Honest Graft. "The world of this charming, sarto-rially splendid lawyer-lobby-ist is one of money, influence-pedding, and ethical insensitivity

A special prosecutor had been looking into his dealings for the past year, and the Republicans had high hopes of pulling him down. He was accused of setting up small companies, which he would then sell at a huge profit to people who had business with the federal government, and failing to report these dealings completely.

There are plenty of smooth and charming lawyers in Washington, but very few black ones. He was a "new Democrat" in the mould of Bill Clinton, who never lost his touch with the liberals and the under-privileged in the party. He was also a most sful secretary of com-

ON Brown, who ceaselessly to abolish the de-has died in a plane partment. Brown confounded crash near Du-them by gathering teams of senior executives around him to further the President's international trade policies. He was constantly on the move, generating much useful pub-licity and also largely suc-ceeding in interesting Ameri-can business in the export market

The Democratic party from the days of Lyndon Johnson to the late 1980s was in con-stant turmoil, with North and South, left and right, cease-lessly bickering. Brown, who joined in the fight in 1980. working for Edward Kennedy when he ran against Presi-dent Carter, came to argue that the object was not to be right, but to win elections. He persuaded a recalcitrant party to accept his novel doc-trine after he became party chairman in 1989. He did not

openly support Clinton dur-ing the primary season in 1992: he was meant to be neutral. But when Clinton nailed down the nomination. Brown made sure that the whole party swung behind him, and the convention was a triumph for party unity. So was the campaign, and the continuing contrast be-

tween Democratic unity and Republican fratricide is largely Brown's legacy. He was born in Washington in 1941 and grew up in New York, where his father was running a hotel in Harlem. He went to a small private uni-versity in Vermont, and to law school, partly financing it

with four years in the army. Like many other ambitious young men, he came to Wash-ington for the politics, first with the Urban League (a black organisation), then with the Senate Judiciary Committee, where he worked for Teddy Kennedy. In the usual order of business, in due course he joined a top law firm there. He leaves a widow and two children, both of whom are lawyers.

Patrick Brogar

No one was more smoothly symbolic of *fin-de-siècle* Washdictator, Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier. A nine-page memo Brown sent Baby Doc ington than Ron Brown, Corruption breeds most rankly at in 1983 blamed the President's merce. This, too, was a the intersection between po-bravura performance. The litical parties, corporate lobpoor reputation on the Amerian press, which had created

A helping hand for the corporated state . . . Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown

established his permanent work hard to get more Ameri- 'Brown had a rare facility for residence. The hats he wore can money into the hands of matching countries, donors varied. But his essential func- his client. residence. The hats he wore varied. But his essential function remained the exertion of Brown's terminal trip to the Balkans was typical of his voyages on behalf of the Forinfluence, the application of grease, the smoothing of the tune 500. In this instance the corporate path. In the early 1980s at the lobbying firm of Patton, Boggs & Blow, he signed a contract with the Sugar corporate top brass - from construction to telecommuni-Growers of Guatemala, pledg-ing to improve their image

and advance their cause in Washington. On January 19, 1982, the day Brown closed the deal, the Sugar Growers' disciplinary representatives in the Guatemalan army began a series of assassina-tions that totalled 2,000 in the first four months of Brown's lobbying campaign. Another client of Brown's at that time was the Haitian

cations - were set to resp the fruits of victory, establishing Committee the US as lead contractor in the reconstruction of Bosnia and Croatia. Earlier voyages had taken Brown to Russia, where in March 1994 he was with 28 chief executives from AT&T. Enron, Westinghouse, Dresser, Rockwell, and Gen-eral Electric, announcing hundreds of million dollars worth of deals. In September 1994 he was in China with 25 bosses, celebrating victory in the battle to extend China's Most Favored Nation trading status. Twelve of those nabobs were major donors or fundraisers for the Democratic Party; their companies gave almost \$2 million to

and, as is so often the case in the US, used that as the step-

ping stone to a political

career. In 1962 he became the first black Democrat to be

elected to the Ohio state legis-latura and, three years later, made an unsuccessful bid for

mayoral office in Cleveland, running as an independent.

It was clear from this cam-

paien that he was unlikely to

Stokes caused a national

ty's treasury. In 1994 he got the Saudis to give Boeing a \$3.6 billion order for commercial aircraft. Within six months Boeing had placed \$65,000 in the accounts of the National Democratic

Corporate leaders loved Brown. No doubt the fact that he was African-American was especially pleasing as it suggested the dangerous classes and races were, contrary to the usual fears, recuperable. As James Treybig - boss of Tandem Computers Inc who negotiated a \$100 million joint renture agreement while in China with Secretary Brown — once told the Wall Street Journal, "Whether you're a Democrat or a Republican you really have to respect this guy for what he's done for corporate America.'

Hall. And the resulting social

tensions were being com-pounded by the Vietnam war

and the perception that it was largely being fought by poor and black Americans.

A confrontation in the long,

hot summer of 1968 between

local white police and a group of blacks, in which three

policemen and six civilians died, precipitated disastrous

and widespread rioting.

Though Stokes was re-elected

the following year, this dis-

order, as he wrote later, "was to haunt and colour every as-

pect of my administration for the next three years". He tried to reform the city's

police department and to carry on with earlier efforts to attract industry and ex-

pand municipal housing but

it was an uphill struggle. He decided not to run for a third term in 1971. On leaving office he was snapped up by the New York affiliate of NBC Television to

become anchor man for its again news programme, once again the first black to be given such a prominent media position. After eight

years in that role, he went back to his Cleveland legal

practice and in 1983 was made a judge of the municipal court, where he served two terms, In 1994 President Clin-

ton appointed him US ambas-sador to the Seychelles but he

had to take extended leave through illness,

Carl Burton Stokes, politician, born

June 21, 1927; died April 4, 1996

Harold Jackson

The Guardian Friday April 5 1996

Simon Nowell-Smith A bibliophile with wit and generosity

sensitive awareness of each métier prevented him from realising his full potential. Any task he took on was handled with originality, ele-

gance and thoroughness. He was christened Simon Harcourt Nowell Smith, adding the hyphen later to distin-guish himself from many other Smiths, such as his father, Nowell Charles Smith, who edited the letters of an-other Smith, Sydney, the Whig wit, supporter of Catho-lic emancipation and habitue of Holland House. Nowell Smith was the headmaster of Sherborne School, where his son was educated; it was not a comfortable relationship, nor did Simon wholly escape when he went on to New Col-lege, Oxford, of which his father was an honorary fellow. In 1932 he joined the staff of the Times, becoming assis-tant editor of the Times Literary Supplement under Sir Bruce Richmond in 1937. Already a book-collector

and absorbed by the intrica-cies of the manufacture and publishing of books, he persuaded Richmond to give him the back page to publish reviews and articles on bibliographical topics. A group of like-minded friends, Stanley Morison (already a power on the Times), John Carter, Graham Pollard, John Hayward, Dudley Massey and Michael Sadleir, used to meet and dine once a month to "help Simon". This was the origin of the "Biblios" dining club; it

was also an important influence in giving bibliographical studies, hitherto regarded as a sort of ancillary to more respectable academic pur-suits, textual scholarship of literary criticism, and inde-

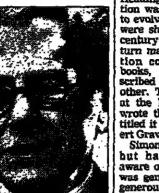
pendent profile. The "back page" lasted until the 1970s, and Simon contributed to it long after he had left the Times, to which he returned after the war (he spent the war years in Naval Intelligence). In 1950, he was

Letters

Sindon Nowell-Smith, who has died aged 86, was a writer, bibliog-rapher and book col-lector of great ability, whose become its librarian. Simon brought needed fresh air in abundance. The library had been damaged, and war-time strains — diminished staff, the breaking of old links with the book trade and so on --had taken their toll. The new librarian saw to all this very well; he had also to revive the

library's public image. But administrating a large semi-public institution was not what he really wanted to do He found an admirable dep-uty librarian Stanley Gillam, and in 1956 made over the li-brary to him. He had begun collecting books before he went to

Oxford, and Blackwell's habitual generosity in the matter of credit gave him a new impetus. He was at once creative and methodical; nat-



Nowell-Smith ... an original

urally drawn to the 19th cen tury, and to authors far from fashionable then, he began with the works of his uncle, Mark Rutherford, but moved on to make virtually complete collections of Robert Bridges and Henry James. The last led to his first and in some ways

most original book, The Legend of the Master (1947), which aimed "to show Henry James as others saw him, and as far as possible in their own words". It was, in fact, a novel ssay in biography, in which

Birthdays

............................ Prof John Albery, Master, University College, Oxford, 60; Jane Asher, actress, cook, 50; Alberto Romero (Cubby) Staff, 58; Lord Rockley, Marjorie Thompson writes: While we were delighted that you chose to feature the birth-day of Herman Ouseley, our Chairman at the Commission Broccoli, film producer, 87; for Racial Equality (Weekend Birthdays, March 23), could I just point out one or two fac-Michael Bryant, actor, 69; James Buckley, chief execu-tive, Baltic Exchange, 52;

Simon's own construction. The result owed more to Max Beerbohm than to Lytton Strachey. A similar device made Letters to Macmillan (1967) more lively than any conventional publisher's his-tory, although that is no reflection on his The House of Cassell.

In many ways his most in-ventive and solid work was International Copyright Law and the Publisher, 1830-1900 and the Publisher, 1830-1900 (1968). This wove together the evolution of the law of copy-right with the increasing market for English authors in America and vice-versa, with a masterly grasp of both strands. It was an enlarged version of the lectures he had given at Oxford, which now became his base. Thither he moved from his old home in Eweine to Quarry Manor.

Ewelme to Quarry Manor, Headington. There his collec-tion was kept and continued to evolve. Bridges and James were shed in favour of 19th-

were shed in favour of 19th-century poets, and they in turn made way for "associa-tion copies" of favourite books, preferably those in-scribed by one poet to an-other. Those were exhibited at the Bodleiam in 1983, he wrote the catalogue and en-titled it "Wordsworth to Rob-ert Graves and Beyond". ert Graves and Beyond".

Simon was small in stature but handsome (and well aware of his good looks). He was generous with his time, generous, too, in benefactions generous, too, in benefactions to good causes, such as the Bibliographical Society of which he was president in 1962-64, and generous most of all in his patronage of young craftspeople. If his fastidious taste prevented him from realising all that he might have written or done, it gave his criticism a quality never to be forgotten by those on whom it was bestowed. They whom it was bestowed. They and others will remember his wit and generosity.

Micholas Barker

Simon Harcourt Nowell-Smith, bibliophile, born January 1909; died March 28, 1998

auginer

chairman, US Joint Chiefs of Staff, 59; Lord Rockley, chairman, Kleinwort Benson. 62; Brian Rouse, racing manager, 56; Tessa Solesby, dip-lomat, 64; Anne Scott-

Republicans who control Con-gress have been striving and that was where Brown tyrant. Brown promised to ing the 1993-94 election cycle. died April 3, 1996

Carl Stokes

From the ghetto to City Hall

a prominent political position in America, has died of can-cer at the age of 68 cer at the age of 68. Born in the Depression, his

early years in Cleveland gave little indication that he would little indication that he would ever be more than another poverty-stricken inhabitant of the ghetto. His father died when he was two and his

mother had to support her | out of secondary school and it | bation officer, he decided to ARL Stokes, former mother had to support her out of secondary school and it bation officer, he decided to mayor of Cleveland, family on meagre earnings as was not until he was in his go into private legal practice early twenties that he could afford to take up a course at the University of Minnesota. His extreme skill at billiards and pool, in which he was the nomic recovery programme, being moved when Carl was 10 years old from a shared university champion, helped bring in useful extra cash. On graduation, he went to the Marshall School of Law in Cleveland, and qualified as a lawyer in 1956.

After a brief career as a pro



Bright new morning... Stokes with wife Shirley after winning the Cleveland election

Mario Viegas Critical face of Portugal

E career of actor Mario | satirist. crowds flocked to the | film of that name. It struck a | /legas, who has died | small Lisbon theatre he | chord with the public and was | Viegas, who has died aged 47, straddled the last founded, and his review. Europe Now! Portugal Never! years of dictatorship and the 1974 dawn of democracy in was a sardonic view of Portu-gal's European Community Portugal. He was an irrepressble free spirit in both worlds. From a theatrical family Vie-gas was a successful profesentry. He was equally at home with television, radio and cinsional actor by the age of 20. A slight man with an elastic ema, and took a series of poet-ry readings to the top of the television ratings in 1984. face, his repertory took in the Portuguese renaissance. Che-kov. Brecht, Beckett and slap-Seven years earlier, he played the eponymous anti-hero Ki-

stick. He was best-known as a las in José Fonseca e Costa's

chord with the public and was one of the few local films to He stood as a presidential candidate for the far-left Un-iao Democrática Popular recently, lampooning other politicians while campaigning for social justice. His role as a free-thinker was emphasised further when he professed his homosecuality this year in solidarity with a candidate who had been smeared by his

The industrial erosion in

opponents. President Jorge Sampalo visited Viegas just before he died. "Mario Viegas was a symbol of indepen-dence," he said, "who exer-cised his freedom of expression without infringing that of others. His death is a great loss to our artistic life." Jill JoBiffe

Mario Viegas, actor, born November 10, 1948; died April

tual errors? Herman was the first black director of education in Britain when he took up this post at Inner London Education Authority in 1986. He was then ILEA chief executive from 1988-90, and only became chief executive at Lambeth after ILEA's abolition that year. Incidentally we thought the picture looked a bit more like Yasser Arafati

Elisabeth Roussel writes: There is one correction I would like you to make to your fine obituary on Victor Zorza (March 22). A Way to Die was a joint venture written by Rosemary and Victor Zorza together. This was a remarkable book and had an immediate and profound ef-fect in the United States.

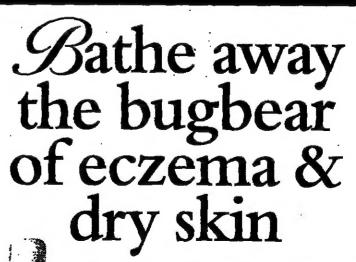
James, n. journalist, 83, novelist and Andrew Buxton, chairman, Barclays Bank, 57; Allan Clarke, rock singer. 54; Roger Corman, film director **Death Notices**

Roger Corman, film director and producer, 70; Agnetha Faltskog, singer with Abba, 46; Tom Finney, foothaller, 74; Will Gaines, jazz dancer, 68; Dr John Gilbert, Labour MP, 69; Arthur Hailey, author, 76; Nigel Haw-thorne, actor, 67; Sir Dong-las Henley, former Auditor-General, 77; Prof Denis ingent). Peacetury in concerns, 1998 aster a tong litness ager Adored and adoring incher a Tommy Beloved wite of John, Bib and Norsh, starter of John Femily Funeral at Saltsbury (11.40e.n. on Wednesday 10th Bervice of themselving at Salt Irad to Salisbus N Newman Lis House, 65 W drai at a later data. I donations 17 desired

General, 77; Prof Denis Lawton, chairman, London University School Examina-tions Board, 65; Janice Long. radio presenter, 41; Prof Donin Memoriam ald Lynden-Bell, astrono-

composition of you we every berefit and you we know we do not waik alone for yours is the love that cannot die, the light that cannot be extinguished. Always your Christino. mer, 61; Peter Moore, profes-sor of Decision Science, London Business School, 68: [fait samot be extinguisted Alegar Stan Orme, Labour MP, 73; Bro place your announcement left Gregory Peck, actor, 50; Jen- 0171 713 4567. Fait 0171 713 4128.

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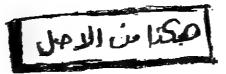
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Friday April 5 1996

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer Telephone: 0171-239-9610

Bargaining pays at Swan, page 12

Tomorrow: Enter Bashful, the learning robot

FinanceGuardian

Notebook

Lloyd's signs US ceasefire

Pauline Springett

Fax: 0171-833-4456

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LOYD'S of London has struck a cease-fire deal with legal authorities in the US

vent its proposed £2.8 billion rescue package from collaps-ing under an onslaught of

American litigation. Under the deal, Lloyd's has agreed to stop pursuing its US Names for money to pay their losses, while some states have pledged to hold fire on plans to sue Lloyd's.

The ceasefire, which came into effect at midnight on Wednesday and lasts for one | following a furry of US law-month, has come at a critical | suits. US Names are alleging

battled insurance market, which has recently lost around £11 billion, has only a few weeks left to finalise its

reconstruction package. In early June, Lloyd's 34,000 Names will be told how much money they must pay to allow them to quit the market for ever. Lloyd's also hopes that later this summer the Depart-ment of Trade and Industry ment of Trade and Industry

will give full authorisation to Bouttas, the company being set up to manage the market's old liabilities.

But in recent weeks the entire rescue project has looked in danger of disintegrating

to be taken by the end of the

noment for Lloyd's. The empt they should not have to pay attled insurance market, their losses because they about Lloyd's. Its argument is called Lloyd's North Ameri- Group on the pros and cons of the their losses because they that Lloyd's is not governed can Trust Fund. This fund the rescue deal itself. Lloyd's without being told the full nature of the financial by US securities laws and so, cannot be guilty of having broken the

risk. The peace deal has so far souri, West Virginia, Pennsyl-vania, Virginia, Colorado and Louisiana. Lloyd's has also heen talk-ing to the State Securities

Commissioners of around 25 more states and is hoping to persuade them to sign as well. Even if they do not, Lloyd's has put on hold for a month its entire programme of debt collection from US Names. It hopes by then to have "edu-

pays out the claims of US policyholders. The Californian insurance The peace deal with Louisi-

commissioner has warned ana was secured a few days before the others and Lloyd's that freezing it would jeopardise the insurance cover of thousands of businesses in the state. Lloyd's has 2,600 Names in the US. It is not clear how many live in each state or

hopes it will prove to be a blueprint for deals will other states. Under it, Louisiana has agreed that even if it con-tinues to sue Lloyd's, it will not do so until August -- after the rescue neckage has been the rescue package has been put into place. -California is also suing, but

it has not signed the cease-fire. Its regulators are currently embroiled in a row in the US courts over whether

how much Lloyd's is trying to make them pay, although sources say that the total is "hundreds of millions of pounds". Meanwhile, in the UK

Lloyd's is facing another the financial storm over a report issued by the package.

to tell full story The VSG, which was set up to provide an independent assessment of the reconstruc-tion package, has split over the report which was pro-duced by City solicitors Slaughter & May. The law yers have concluded that the rescue plan is the best option for the Names.

But Alan Porter, one of the three-man team which com-prised VSG, and deputy chair-man of the Lloyd's Names Edited by Association's Working Party Patrick Donovan has refused to sign the report arguing it has failed to assess

WO crucial questions the financial implications of must be answered by the Woolwich Building Soci-

ety about the sacking of its chief executive. If the society believes Peter Robinson be-

haved improperly over ex-pense claims, why has the matter not been referred to the relevant authorities? To be sure, chairman Sir Brian Jenkins took a brave decision to make the maner public in the first place. This is a controversy which has damaged the Woolwich's damaged the Woolwich's that a family in the poorest fifth of the population spends three times as much on ciga-It will also cause great dis-

Woolwich needs

ruption to the planned share flotation, over which Mr Rob-inson had overall control. Having opened this Pandora's Box, the Woolwich can-not hope the matter will be settled cosily in a lawyer's

office, even though it appears that Sir Brian is prepared to let the matter rest as long as Mr Robinson makes good the disputed money.

The former chief executive, meanwhile, denies any irregplarity and is still claiming £300,000 compensation for a full year's salary plus the guarantee of pension entitlements for his 30 years of service. Indeed, Mr Robinson was yesterday claiming through his lawyers that the Woolwich has never confronted him directly with the

llegations. The society's willingness to debate the matter privately is a mistake. This is, after all, an but simply because the end organisation with a strict policy of pressing charges arettes.

apposite. Choosing a habit that brings death a little

11

closer, they get clobbered by the taxman along the way. Yesterday saw the begin-nings of a backlash against the level of tobacco tax, which accounts for 52.26 of a packet of aircrattag arcting 72.89 of cigarettes costing £2.89. The Fair Cigarette Tax Cam-paign — funded, oddly enough, by tobacco compa-nies — has produced some frightening statistics.

Someone who buys a packet of cigarettes each day coughs up £790 a year in tax. For a worker earning £12,000 a year, this is almost as much as his or her total income tax bill, while a single unemployed person smoking a pack a day gives back a third of benefit via tobacco tax.

The campaign is appealing to egalitarian instincts, pointing out that poor people rettes as a household in the

top 20 per cent bracket. Politicians on all sides have colluded to allow tobacco tax to rise twice as fast as retail prices in the past two years. For the Conservatives, the £8 billion revenue is convertible into vote-winning income tax cuts. Labour's new social conservatism means that silence reigns across the political spectrum on this most unprogressive tax of all - in contrast to Opposition fury about VAT on fuel.

The smoking lobby argues that poor people should have the same choices as everybody else, without having to pay a sanctimoniously im-posed tax penalty. Given the intrusion of the state into many corners of personal life, this is a resonant argument. But tobacco taxes should not be cut. Not because of state disapproval of the habit. result may not be chapper cig-

BT managers reject 'pay by performance'

month.

Seumas Miline

advant Editor

RITISH Telecom managers and supervisors yesterday. delivered an 80 per cent vote for industrial action in protest against a performance pay system, which was described as "se-cretive and arbitrary" by union officials and has led to pay cuts in real terms for the majority over the past two years.

Members of the Society of Telecom Executives, to which about two-thirds of BT's 20.000 junior and middle managers belong, voted by 6,782 to 1,683 in a 66 per cent turnout for action abort of a strike. That would be likely to include working to contract on

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procedures.

A company spokeswoman said BT was disappointed with the ballot result, because it believed its pay review was fair. She hoped the STE would "re-think" but that, in any case, there would be no impact on customers. The review would add 4 per cent to BT's managers' wage bill and the increases would be in this month's pay packets. But the union said there was great anger among managers over the lack of open-ness about the criteria used in the pay review. This had been demonstrated by the vote of no confidence represented by the ballot result. Some managers would receive nothing "It will mean a wide range

of increases starting well be-low the rate of inflation and members are not clear how these will be decided or who will get what." Mr Petch said. hours, job descriptions and 1.43 A meeting with BT management to resolve the dispute ---described as potentially "seri-Many simply go not trust to

Absolutely paperless, but Harvey Nicks float goes ahead

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- 4 ₁₀ 11 <u>-</u> 1

ous and damaging" yesterday by Simon Petch, STE general company to treat them fairly secretary - has been hur-riedly arranged for next and resent a pay system shrouded in secrecy. BT supervisors and middle week. Under trade union legislation, any action will have

managers earn between £18,000 and £32,240 a year, with the average around £25,000. The company has been trying to pull back the higher end of the range in line with a "benchmarking" exercise with comparable rates in industry. But the STE argues that BT's performance-related pay

system has been discredited because good performers are being penalised. Most managers received no pay rise in 1994 and two thirds got less than the rate of inflation last year. Morale has also been affected by BT's huge pro gramme of job cuts, which has resulted in 100,000 redundancies in the past five years.

Borgias might recognise the state we're in

Larry Elliott Economics Editor

TS Europe in 2010. The grandiose Napoleonic dreams of a single political entity stretching from the Urais to the Atlantic have been replaced by a patchwork. of city states in which Machtaveili and the Borgias would feel at home.

Britain will be divided up into entities not seen since Anglo-Saxon times, with regimal governments in Scotland, Wales, Manchester and London.

Far-fetched? Not according to Noriko Hama, a senior economist in the City who sees the Renaissance model of 500 years ago as a more viable blueprint for the future than the Delors plan for a single currency and ever closer political links.

In a study certain to delight Euro-sceptics, who have displayed all the ruthlessness of 15th Century Italy in their campaign against a federal Europe. Ms Hama argues that there is no future in the no-

union is about to crash into a wall. There could be another currency crisis in the not too distant future, and even if inomotary union does start on once able to generate," she time there will be enormous says in the broadcast.

ressure both within and out side the single-currency area. "That will threaten devaluation wars between various

parts of Europe and will de-stroy the whole idea of European Union.". Ms Hama, who has lived in

London for the past six years, said that there were already sain that there were already signs that Italy. Spain and Belgium could break up into regional blocks. She believes that Brussels

will become virtually impo-tent and that the city states she envisages will be joined together by an over-arching body that wields only nomi-

nal power. Ms Hama's controversial view of Europe's future is de-veloped in a BBC Radio pro-gramme — Beyond the Mil-lennium — to be broadcast on April 15, and in a book, Disintegrating Europe, to be pub-lished later this month.

She envisages that south ern England might be called London in 15 years' time and that Greater Manchester could be the city state control-

"I suppose [Europe will] look very much like lialy in there is no turure in the look very much me that in the Renaissance period, with the Musuhishi Research In-the Musuhishi Research In-the Musuhishi Research In-the Musuhishi Research In-their own thing and compet-their own thing and being ing with each other and being generally very creative, and really coming up with the wonderful things Europe was

T WAS "absolutely em-barrassing" yesterday when Harvey Nichols, the parel to amounce its pub-and amounced the outline with a store in Leeds. A pared to announce its pub-lic flotation terms, printing problems proved impossi-ble to overcome. top people's fashion store, launched its bid for stock

market status — and the documentation failed to In the event, the "pathfinder prospectos" was not just fashionably late but turn up, writes Sarah noticeable by its absence at

While the highly-presti-gious Harvey Nicks --much beloved of Princess Diana and the characters in details. Its float price will be pitched at around 240p to 270p per share — valuing

the group at £132 million to E148 million. Joseph Wan, Harvey

prestige restaurants chain is also planned.

Harvey Nichols' directors expect the stores group to turn in pre-tax profits of £9.1 million for the year to the end of March — a 51.7

PHOTOGRAPH: SEA

He maintained, however that this is not the end of ostrich farming in the UK. A number of small farms, which

had nothing to do with the OPC, are still operating in Last week the OFC boasted

that it had brought forward plans to import ostrich meat to the UK in the wake of the

any employee su pected improper behaviour a correct stance.

Sir Brian's compromise approach sets a bad example to the rest of the workforce. It also lays the company open to charges of double standards: one law for the rank and file and another for his former boardroom cronies.

The second question the Woolwich needs to answer is why these allegations were uncovered only by a special internal audit preparing the society for its flotation. Why did its normal financial checks and security systems not pick up on a trail of unusual expense claims?

At the very least it seems that the Woolwich ran an excessively trusting regime, to the extent of allowing Mr Robinson to sign expenses without counter-authorisation. Unless the Woolwich faces up to these issues, it may find

the already painful path to conversion from mutuality that much more difficult.

Smoke screen

only certainties in life are death and taxes is specially

whisky distillers squeezed a cut in duty from Chancellor Kenneth Clarke in last November's budget. Then, once a decent interval had elapsed. they restored prices to the previous level to boost profits. Any arguments from multinational-funded lobby roups, especially Fabiansounding arguments, must come with a prominent health warning.

Fab offer

Baround the best parts of central London — and a lot of it shops in Knightsbridge. While other retailers are heading downmarket, ex-clusive stores like Harvey Nichols have carved out a

hugely profitable niche. Full details of its flotation will come later this month. But yesterday's pathfinder prospectus from the group's Hong Kong-based owner, Dickson Concepts, forecasts full-year profits up by more than £3 million to £9.1 million OR Britain's 15 million Smokers, Benjamin Franklin's view that the

more fat from the overheads. This issue could be hot.

Bristol & West denies plans for takeover by Australians

ing to expand its retail operation Mangaret Hughes and Cliff Junits tions. It has accumulated A million customers through its purchases of the Clydes-BRISTOL & West was forced to deny yesterday that it was in talks with the dale, Northern and Yorkshire banks. Tim Clarke, banking ana-National Australia Bank after speculation that Britain's lyst for stockbroker Panmure Gordon, said: "National Australia have wanted to expand into a full UK banking operaninth-largest building society was about to be taken over. The society also said it was tion for a long time. The takenot poised to announce an agreed takeover by any other over would give them a good geographical base." Inancial institution, nor a merger with another society. B&W has long been tipped as a takeover candidate and is expected to be the pext soci-While a B&W spokesman conceded that it would 'not be fair to say that we are not talking to anyone", the soci-ety was, he added, continuing to consider "all options". ety to convert to a publicly owned bank or be swallowed up by an outside predator. Such options ranged from conversion to a publicly Over the past few days owned bank to introducing "a multi-bonus scheme to dethere has been speculation that National Australia Bank clare its commitment to muwas about to announce a taketuality". He stressed that the over bid for the society. It is society intended to remain the largest foreign banking "Bristol-based and in charge group in the UK and is lookof its own future".

TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS					
Australia 1.8825	France 7.44	Ilaty 2,343	Singapore 2.05		
Austria 15.28	Germany 2 19	Matra 0 5375	South Africa 5.96		
Belgium 44.90	Graece 359.00	Nethenar 16 2 4525	Spain 153 75		
Canada 2.0180	Hong Kong 71.59	New Zeeland 2, 1750	Swetzerland 1.755		
Cyprus 0.8975	India 51.76	Norway 9,55	Swetzerland 1.755		
Denmark 8.49	Ireland 0.9425	Portugal 227,00	Turkey 99,900		
Finland 6.9870	Israel 4.76	Saudi Arabia 5,67	USA 1.49		

by NatiWest Bank (exclu



venture. Sarah Whitebloom reports

HS Department of Trade | lapse or how much money has has used its most draco- | been lost by individuals who nian powers to close the UK's biggest ostrich farming

organisation. In a statement, the DTI announced that it had presented a petition for the winding up of the Ostrich Farming Corporation following a secret investigation under section 447

of the Companies Act. The OPC — which claimed to have some 2,000 birds was not answering its phones last night. It is not yet known how many "investors" have last out as a result of the colwould receive returns of

may have lost millions of nounds in total.

It is thought that at its peak the OFC was taking some 22 million a month from would be ostrich owners, who acted on claims that they

spring per ostrich per year and agreeing to buy back those chicks at a year old for investment - fear that sev-eral thousand individuals a predetermined price."

farms based in Belgium.

The organisation, which in-sisted that investors were Britain bird "owners" rather than in-

vestors, operated from Nottinghamshire with huge According to one ostrich BSE crisis

12 FINANCE AND ECONOMICS

GEC homes in on sonar venture with Thomson

Simon Beavis Industrial Editor

"HE pace of restruc-turing in the Euro-

pean defence indus-try accelerated try accelerated yesterday as GEC announced plans to sink its airborne and underwater sonar business into a new £350 million joint venture company with Thomson of France.

The deal, hammered out after nearly a year of nego-tiation. Is one of the biggest on the European defence scene. It comes when talk of consolidation is increasingly urgent, not least with the emergence of a new breed of defence giants in the United States, where tie-up moves have been

The British and French Governments have yet to give their backing to the proposed deal, which would centre on a new company called Thomson Marconi Sonar, employing 3,500 workers and registered in the Netherlands. Both governments imme-

diately said they wished to scrutinise the deal at home on national security grounds, calling on the European Commission to waive its right to look at

mergers over a certain size. EU states have rights under European treaties to take responsibility for investigating mergers in areas where defence interests are concerned. The Buropean Commission had no immediate comment.

Lazard houses

to share profits



In the new deal, GEC and

when Ferranti collapsed nearly two years ago. The new company, which will be majority-owned by the French company with a 50.1 per cent stake, will have its industrial headquarters at Sophia-Antipo-lis in France. The two companies said that all existing commitments to suppliers and partners would be unaffected by the tie-up. GEC has a good track re-

cord in forming interna-tional joint ventures, par-

ticularly in Europe. Its largest are the 50/50 GEC Alsthom power engi-neering and train building alliance with Alcatel Alsthom, and a telecom-munications joint venture led by Siemens of Germany. It has also created Europe's biggest satellite business, with a 49 per cent stake in a joint venture with Matra of France.

with Matra of France. But defence mergers in Europe have generally proved problematic, falling foul of conflicting national security interests, a mis-match between private and publicly owned companies, financial wrangles and an inability to serve which inability to agree which partners should shoulder rationalisation.

British Aerospace has tried in vain for three years to the up a merger of its Dynamics missile business with Matra.



Rainbow warriors... The angling season started at Bewl Water reservoir, Kent, with the release of 9,000 rainbow trout from breeding cages. A thousand anglers a day are expected over Easter, after 500 turned up on Wednesday, the opening day. Southern Water filled the reservoir from a new £18 million pumping station PHOTOGRAPH STEWART GOLDSTEW

Swan staff win £6m payout

Rock building society's an-nouncement of plans to con-Martin Walnwright vert into a bank and issue bonus shares averaging

HREE years of hard bargaining by \$1,000 union negotiators, and a window of op-Meanwhile, a second comportunity in law,

pensation claim for senior Swan staff, estimated at have won nearly 26 million £4 million. is expected to be compensation for shipbuild-ing workers who lost their jobs with the collapse of Swan settled out of court. The first agreement is the largest to date under a brief legal interregnum, ushered in

Buntar's Tyneside yards. The payments to 2,200 for-mer employees — including up to 1,000 re-hired by the new Swan company — mark by the 1993 Paramount Airways ruling which held receivers liable for employ-ment contracts if they kept the second big cash boost this staff on for more than 14 days week to North-east house-holds, with the Northern after taking over collapsed lirms.

The law was then changed in March 1994 to block this on the grounds that companies would not be kept running as

negotiated with Price Water house since 1993 — did not try to hide their real satisfaction with the final \$5.8 million

peckage. "It is a great success and we're especially pleased that this has been achieved "And if we had known about it, I think that we would have moved to close the yard immediately. That would have meant the loss of Tom Breman, the confiderathrough negotiation, not liti-gation, which would have Alice Gr

the business in receivership to complete a number of con-tracts." only what the workers were entitled to in their employ-ment contracts. It should not

be seen as a windfall." The payments average \$2,500 a head, but differing lengths of service mean that nearly one-third of the former staff will get only about \$500.

A small number of managers receive up to £15,000. Overall, The doal requires agreement by St percent of the former workforce before the end of

Alice Grosvenor, of the Manufacturing Science and Finance union national executive, said: "The overall figmay sound like Lottery

money, but when it is split ba-tween all these bousebolds, it becomes more down to earth. It's only what they financially and morally deserve.

The Guardian Friday April 5 1996

However, Davey Hall, presi dent of the Amalgamated En-gineering and Electrical Union, regretted the way in which the deal topped the sum needed to keep Swan's afloat immediately before

receivership. He said: "We'd much rather have maintained employment with all the lads and lasses in constructive jobs. It's actually cost more to close Swan Hunter than it would have done to save it."

Roger Covre

HE three Lezard merchant bank houses in London, New York and Paris are to move closer together, although retaining separate identities and Independence. They are creating a new of inter-firm profit unique.

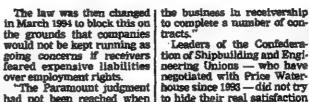
plan will be implemented at the end of this year subject to the necessary approvals. Michel David-Weill, chair-

wide will not change. The

man of Lazard Frères in New York and of London-based Lazard Pariners, said: "Our purpose is to make the most of who we are, without jeopar-dising what makes each of us

News in brief

Reckitt disposes of unit for £82m



had not been reached when we took over Swan's." said Gordon Horsfield of Swan's receivers, Price Waterhouse. *resterday*

some £40 million in pay dur- tion's regional chairman. ing the time that we operated

sharing, to enable each house to share in the combined financial performance while preserving their separate cultures. Through a pooling system,

the pariners and managing directors of each bank will share in the income of all three and therefore have an interest in the financial per-formance of the Lazard

Houses as a group. Income will still be pro-duced and primarily paid within each firm, but the 103 partners will now also receive approximately one-third of their pay from the pool. The pay structure for most of La- includin zard's 2,000 employees world- merger.

High prices blamed as car sales slump

Zoé Elsenstein

THE row over the high price of new cars in the United Kingdom erupted EUROTUNNEL yesterday Cannounced that tourist traffic on its Le Shuttle seragain yesterday as figures from the motor industry showed that sales unexpect-edly fell back in March.

The Society of Motor Manu-facturers and Traders said 180,275 new cars were sold, al-most 1 per cent down on the

same month last year. The SMMT said that al-though sales to businesses and car fleets rose by 10.4 per cent, sales to individual buyers were down by 6.6 per cent.

Economists expressed sur-prise that the car market was lagging again when consumer confidence appeared to be growing and the housing market showed signs of recovery. Ian Shepherdson, UK econ-omist at HSBC Greenwell,

said: "The problem with new cars is almost certainly that they are too expensive." He said that prices had

risen by 4 per cent over the last year and warned that overall sales would continue to struggle during 1996. Roger King, an SMMT di-rector, said accusations about IK mices mare misleading

UK prices were misleading. "They have done nothing to build consumer confidence, which can only be encoured by manufacturers and

retailers working together." The Retail Motor Industry Federation, for car dealers, said the industry had yet to convince buyers that cars businesses' belief that the Government had a clear strategy, he said. were "exceptional value".

Lazard directors Michel David-Weill, Jean-Claude | RECKITT & Colman raised \$82 million yesterday through the Haas and David Verey are sale of its US Personal Products division, which makes brands also directors of the enter-tainment and publishing sold mainly in the US, such as Chubs baby wipes. The buyer is JW Childs Associates, a Massachusetts-based investment man group Pearson, which has a 50 per cent interest in the

London firm, Lazard Part-ners. The plan therefore requires the approval of the ordinary shareholders of Pearson.

The three Lazard houses were first formally linked together in 1984. Since then, they have worked together in-creasingly. Last year, the three houses worked together on more than 20 transactions, including the Glazo-Wellcome

Tourist traffic

on Le Shuttle

rises by 31pc

in one month

Keith Harper Transport Editor

agement firm. Reckitt, which first announced plans to shed the unit last year, will use the cash to reduce debts. It intends to concentrate on its core bousehold products. It said the division being sold generated a trading profit of \$10 million last year on turnover of \$110 million, and had net assets of \$30 million at the end of 1995. — Tony May

McAlpine shrugs off loss

THE Alfred McAlpine construction group was yesterday optimisthe that its fortunes would improve after announcing a plunge into losses of £33.5 million for 1995. This was after making exceptional charges of £34.7 million and follows a profit of £10.7 million in the previous 14 months.

The board said it was better placed to succeed in its present and future markets because it was concentrating on its core skills in the UK, and improving its US and slate businesses. The company said house prices were now affordable, although consumer confidence was still shaky, and that there would be a modest improvement in 1996.

In January, the group announced a reorganisation of its construction activities, including the closure of its traditional open-tender building business. — Tony May

Cadbury's sweet tooth

CADBURY'S Trebor Basset sweets business has added brands including Keiller, Barker & Dobson and Butterkist popcorn to its collection with the purchase of Craven and Keiller from the privately owned Portfolio Foods. The company had sales last year 1 £42 million and net assets of £12 million.

Barker & Dobson was once a public company in its own right, which bought the Dundee-based Keiller marmalade and sweets business in 1985. It then acquired the Budgens supermarket chain vice showed a 31 per cent monthly increase in March. and decided to concentrate on retailing, selling its sweets inter-ests in 1968. The deal reunites the brands with Hacks and Victory Georges-Christian Chazot. Eurotannel's group managing director. said the figures were "proof of the growing strength of Le Shuttle in the cross-Chan-V, which Cadbury bought in 1990. - Roger Couve

SFA expels trader

nel market". Last Saturday, the ser-vice carried a record 8,430 A FORMER trader at Credit Suisse First Boston has been expelled by the Securities & Futures Authority, the main industry regulavebicles. including 586 coaches. Nearly 50,000 tor, after be admitted concealing a position from a client and the bank. David Santangelo, a former salesman in the bank's fixed

people used the service. In March 152,875 vehicles income division, was also fined \$25,000 and made to pay \$8,000 costs. The SFA said Mr Santangelo had "deliberately procured" a client to buy securities, at a price he knew to be too high, in order nsed Le Shuttle, compared with 72,618 a year earlier. The number of Eurostar trains increased over that

to cover a loss-making position. In addition, the SFA said Mr Santangelo had deceived the client and the bank as to the nature of the deals by using an intermedi-ary, and had deliberately given the client a false valuation of period from 506 to 1,116, and freight trains from 432 replacement securities. to 623. The CBI said yesterday

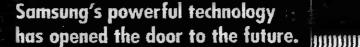
CSFB has dismissed Mr Santangelo and reimbursed the client for "considerable losses". — Ion King

that this Easter weekend's traffic jams would high Hornby row rumbles on

light yet again the failure of Britain's transport pol-icy. It called on the Govern-ment to spend an extra of billion of the failed on the failed of the failed on the failed on the failed on the failed of the f HORNBY, the model trains and toys group, is still arguing over compensation terms with Kelth Ness, the former chief executive who left in October. It is understood he had a three-year rolling contract worth £125,000, which would entitle him to a payment of E2 billion a year on the transport infrastructure. Robert Naplet, chairman of its transport committee, said the Government should

The group said yesterday that Mr Ness's theoretical maximum entitlement was "substantial" but that after taking legal advice it believed he was unlikely to receive all he claimed and expected him to settle at a lower figure. send the covernment about begin looking at ways of im-proving the tax and pricing structure for transport. De-lays in several transport schemes had undermined

The group, which is now concentrating on core activities, lost \$3.8 million in the six months to December 31, but after adding increased interest charges this rose to \$4.3 million before tax, against a profit of ISI1 million a year earlier. The main problem was the need to write off £4 million against the sale of its Fletcher boats subsidiary for £315,000. - Tony May





Right now

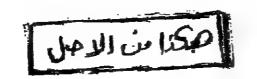
Somsung is building tomonow's Our semiconductor technology is the common home entertainment centers. thread. With it, we unlock the doors that make Linking people together with innovation possible. At Somsung, telecommunications solutions. we don't believe in final frontiers. Making the workplace Only new doors to open. more productive with global information systems.

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20 J

Rong results





عكتام الاجل

Rugby Union

Robert Armstrong

will hold players' contracts. Before players decide on a full-time professional rugby career they want a clear pic-

career mey want a clear put-ture of next season's financial and competitive structures to be established. So far the RFU and English First Division Rugby Limited, the company

that represents the leading clubs, have failed to agree on

every issue of substance be-cause of the tug of war over

money and players. It is understood that the

RFU wants to offer contracts to the 60 leading players, leav-ing the remainder to sort out

their future with the clubs.

However, the clubs reject that proposal because they fear the RFU might set up a power-

ful divisional championship

and enter four divisional

sides for next season's European Cup, thus freezing out

the top four clubs. Some mem-bers of the RFU executive

favour the divisional option.

From May 7 players can switch clubs within seven

tween the

The Guardian Friday April 5 1996

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SPORTS NEWS 13

him in January when he be-came executive chairman

with a landslide majority. Nevertheless, the RFU negoti-ating team does include the

former England internation-als Jeff Probyn and Fran Cot-

ton, and the RFU secretary Tony Hallett, all forceful

ersonalities. Brian Baister, a leading

"Cliff has personally initi-

All horses great and small, the Levy Board helps save them all

Racing

Graham Rock on how punters are backing steeds that will never see a racecourse

HE ponderous majesty of Shires, the classical ele-gance of Arabs, the tubby Shetlands of Thelwell: the variety of our equine pop-ulation is an attractive legacy. Few British punters, however, realise that their betting ensures it stays that

In fact the Horserace Bet-ting Levy Board helps to maintain 20 breeds of horse, six of which are recognise by the Rare Breeds Survival Trust, out of the surcharge of 90p in every £10 wagered off Until the internal combus-

national gene pool. tion engine came, horses

Talking point . . . Frankie Dettori on a Shire and Willie Carson on a 29-inch Argentinian Fallabella pony

varieties. In all, since 1963 the requires encouragement of veterinary science and some grants to breeding societies £4.6 million awarded to societies has made a significant have gone to investigate indi-vidual problems. The New Forest Pony Society, for excontribution to the survival of individual breeds. All awards must be augmented by at least 20 per cent ample, initiated a series of in-

from a society's own spections among stallions to eliminate a crippling defect resources; most are used to subsidise stallion- and mareknown as heathcramp. The Suffolk Punch has been breeding programmes.

"These breeds are part of our national heritage," said Libby Archer, whose title is Scienone of the scheme's success stories. The breed is one of the oldest in the world, dating tific Liaison Executive at the Levy Board. "Our support helps to preserve_individual from the 13th century, and written pedigrees are recorded in an unbroken line

thoroughbred, a field athlete against a track runner. They were a very early influence in National Hunt breeding but rare bloodlines and the back to 1768. In 1966 only nine foals were registered but now "The grants encourage disabout 40 are produced annubeen superseded by pure thoroughbreds, who have Another successful camhred stallions of outstanding naigh has been fought by the Iriah Draught Horse Society. Until the 1950s this powerful, ity. The Irish draught conformation, but whose abil ity did not justify a full-time stud career in racing. The Grand National winners

all-purpose animal was the remains, though, the back mainstay of Irish agriculture. "Farmers could afford only bone of showjumping. To produce a top-class Irish draught foal costs £1,500. As a one horse," said the society' Pam Simmonds, "so the Irish five-year-old the progeny draught was used to haul on might be worth \$3,500 but the the roads, to hunt and for light field work. They are tractable and totally useful. expense of keeping the young

expanse of keeping the young horse until mature negates the theoretical profit. "The Levy Board subsidy makes the pill less bitter to swal-low." Simmonds added. Most societies to benefit will have annual grants this year of accumd 510 000 but the "When they became superfluous they were shipped in their hundreds across the Channel" - inevitably to end on Continental dinner tables. The Irish draught has more bone and substance than the year of around £10,000 but the National Light Horse Breeding Society. with a greater affinity to horse racing, has been awarded £103,050. Its scheme allows owners to send

still appetising

on the enduring value of the famed

tators.

invitation team

HE Barbarians may b an oddity in the cold eyed world of profes sional rugby but, like an endangered species, they keep

vive and prosper among top players and ever more choosy

Tomorrow the oldest rughy

club in the world will attract

a 15,000 crowd to the Arms

Park for a game against Car-diff representing the last remaining link with their tra-

ditional three-match Easter

Instead of a line-up that in-

cludes Englishmen and Celts

the Barbarians have roped in

Italians, Argentinians and

Antipodeans to wear the fam-

ous black-and-white hooped

shirt together for probably the only time in their lives. The hybrid character of the

invitation side is perhaps best

symbolised by their No. 8 Ju-lian Gardner, who was born in Brisbane and won four

caps for Australia in the late

Eighties before settling in Italy where, as a Benetton

Treviso forward, he has be-come an established Italian

The Barbarians now cast

their selection net worldwide after finding that their raison

international.

tour of South Wales.

up new ways to stu

been unable to negotiate the | the counties who voted for guaranteed income needed to pay the players next season. "We are disappointed at the lack of agreement during the NGLAND's leading players yesterday entered the bitter negotiations going on be-tween the RFU and EFDR." propaganda war be-the senior clubs and said a statement issued by leading players yesterday. "A great number of players face difficult career decisions the Rugby Football Union over who will plan the future of the professional game. The which can practically be made only when the RFU and the clubs have decided upon players have demanded speedy agreement on issues such as the distribution of the future structure and play-ing schedule of the game. "The players support a strong national team undertelevision income, competi-tion schedules for the European Cup and a new Anglo-Welsh League, as well as who

Players rise up

at **RFU** deadlock

official of the National Clubs Association (which repre-sents the top four divisions), also defended Brittle. ated and driven a whole series of conciliatory meet-ings aimed at finding a solu-tion that would benefit the pinned by a strong profes-sional club structure in which sional Club structure in which clubs are free to maximise the opportunities presented by professional rugby." Meanwhile Twickenham has been forced to take the rare step of issuing a public vote of confidence in Cliff Pattile the DEVIC curvities game and all interested par-ties," he said. "Throughout those meetings the problems have been deep-rooted, atti-

tudes resilient and the struggle to wrest control from the RFU by some five or six Brittle, the RFU's executive chairman. The RFU has also clubs at all times apparent." Yesterday Phil Moss, t taken the clubs to task for Orrell coach, accused the RFU of being unprofessional. what it sees as their attempt what it sees as their attempt to take over the powers and responsibilities of the union. Club representatives have been making an ill-disguised attempt to drive a wedge be-

"We don't know if there will be 10 or 13 clubs in the First Division next season and we don't even know if we will be playing in an Anglo-Welsh League. We are four weeks from the end of the season tween Brittle and the RFU by casting doubt on his ability to achieve a negotiated and everything ought to have Mike Coley, the Gloucester een sorted out."

chief executive, said Brittle "couldn't take a decision to The 22-year-old England A full-back and West Hartlepool save his life" and "wants us captain Tim Stimpson yester to go back to the 18th century rather than forward to the day joined Rob Andrew's Newcastle United. "I haven't oined Newcastle just because Brittle is regarded by EFDR of money," he said. "I feel this switch clubs within seven as the representative primar-days but so far clubs have, ily of the smaller clubs and player. is where I can develop as a

> Glasgow 13 N and Midlands 21

Kerr clinches play-off to put Perth on Europe map

Gordon Lyla

SCOTLAND's representa-tives for next season's European Rugby Cup were finalised last night when the Southern Hemisphere North and Midlands beat Glasgow to claim the third have also come to treat meet quasi-internationals which Edinburgh and South of can sometimes redeem a Test Scotland. The other two teams had etback. The 1993 All Blacks qualified on the strength of recent inter-district champrized their victory over the Barbarians far more after pionship performances but the Scottish Rugby Union had decreed that despite losing to England at Sponsorship by Scottish Amicable has been essential to the Barbarians' robust N&M winning their previons fixture with Glasgow there was so little to chose health in the Nineties, allowbetween them a play-off was necessary at Megget-land, Edinburgh. N&M will ing them to expand their fixture list and travel to venues such as Moscow for the first time. Next month the club probably play their Eurohopes to play an Ireland XV in Dublin, subject to confirpean ties out of St John-stone FC's ground at mation by the IRFU, and in McDiarmid Park, Perth. June the Japanese will host a It is understood that two-match visit by the Bar-barians in aid of the victims clubs in England and Wales are now pressing Scottish and Irish provinces to take of the Kobe earthquake. The fraternal relationships the name of a city or town. that are part of rugby union Scotland have indicated are bound to be threatened that ways would be found when players' bank balances collide but the Barbarians' of complying should the club argument prevail. ethos should act as a correc-Also, although the SRU tive to the darker side of pro-fessionalism. As Mickey has ruled that players must turn out for the districts they represented in qualify-ing for Europe, some would prefer to see players turn Steele-Bodger, a man who has fostered the Barbarians ideal for half a century, said: "We as a club are living proof that rugby still offers friendship out for the district in which their clubs are based rather than be guided by their place of birth. and enjoyment purely for their own sake among players of the highest international Dave McIvor, the N&M captain, lasted only 13 min-utes last night before being calibre from across the Probably no single try has helped off with a leg injury which had been accompabeen re-run on television nied by a loud crack. N&M made most of the more than Gareth Edwards's opener for the Barbarians against the 1973 All Blacks. However, every Barbarians game produces at least one early running and Mark McKenzie eventually opened the scoring with a memorable try, sometimes three or four, and as often as penalty in 35 minutes and converted the Scotland not scored by the host side. Last season Dean Richards skipper Rob Wainwright's try. McKenzie extended the chose the post-Christmas Barlead to 13-0 in 46 minutes, barians fixture to score his but George Breckenridge cut the gap to 13-6 with two penalties for Glasgow be-100th Leicester try and at Easter Cardiff plundered their highest points total (75) fore Paul Rouse took over kicking duties for N&M when McKenzie became the against the invitation club. Simultaneously contempofifth player to retire hurt, on the hard ground, and im-mediately kicked a longrary and old-fashioned in the best sense, the Barbarians still believe winning comes range penalty. Glasgow hit back with a 70th minute try by Kenny Logan from a short penalty, Breckepridge converting.

Barbarian blend Robert Armstrong | month) do them the honour of treating each visit rather like

a crunch league game. So much passion surfaced in the East Midlands fixture that a few punches wer thrown, almost unbeard of in previous Barbarians' encount ers, even those in Wales

Twickenham.

world."

ettlement

21st."

where there is no such con cept as "fun" rugby. National touring sides from

in the fields, down the pits. Suddenly they were as redundant as leeches in hospitals; numbers dwindled. in some cases close to extinction.

But a combination of enthusiasm and assistance has en-sured the diversity of breeds, and in a few areas such as forestry there are even hints of a renaissance with muscle replacing machine.

The Levy Board was set up in 1963, essentially to distrib-ute revenues from betting to racing. It inherited responsibility for supporting non-thoroughbred breed societies from the Racecourse Betting Control Board, which had previously distributed profits from the Tote. During the present year

£273,270 of punters' money will be awarded in grants to 12 breed societies, including the National Pony Society which alone encompasses nine mountain and moorland

Racing results

LEICESTER

.............

over generations, eliminates defects and ultimately pro-duces a higher standard." The board's mandate also These breeds are

part of our national

support helps to

preserve rare

bloodlines and the

national gene pool.

Grants encourage

discriminate breeding'

heritage. Our

LEECESTER 2.10 (1mb 1, ROYAL CARARICA, R Hughes (10-11 (Im); 2, Marth Bong (9-2); 3, Bainbards (13-2), 12 ran. Hd, 15, 10 Lotar) (13-2), 12 ran. L, 15, 10 Lotar) (13-2), 12 ran. L, 15, 10 Lotar) (13-2), 12 ran. L, 10 Lotar) (13-2), 13 ran. L, 15, 10 Lotar) (13-2), 13 ran. L, 15, 10 Lotar) (13-2), 15 ran. L, 15 ran. L, 16 Lotar) (13-2), 15 ran. L, 15 ran. L, 16 Lotar) (13-2), 15 ran. L, 15 ran. L, 15 ran. L, 15 ran. L, 10 (11-20, 11), 20 Juai F: 10-20 Lotar) (13-0), 11-20, 11-20 Juai F: 10-20 Lotar) (13-10) (11-20, 11-20 Juai F: 10-20 Lotar) (13-10) (13-20 Lotar) (13-20 Lotar) (13-10) (13-20 Lotar) (13-20 Lotar) Drugen. 4.30 (107:1,010) SHADBER, C Scally (3-1) Rwit: 3, Invession 19-2): 3, These Part (8-1) 3-1; R for The Institute Boy, Bran. 15, and (K Nory) Tote CL60; £1.60, FL70; Dual F: (7.90, CSF: £14.82, QUADPOTE [11.30; PLACEPOTE [11.30;

E3.03 NR: Forgation Dancer. 3.10 (1an 3f 183)rdub, 1, PDPS DellAnk, W Carton (16-1); 2, Ciburnel News (12-1); 3, Root Group (7-1); 4, Sells Sedons (1)-11.6-1 Has Grange, 21 rar. 4, (1. (1. (Fynn)) Toto: C19.40; C3.10, C2.60, C2.20, C3.40, Dual F 106.10, CSF: C202.67, Tricest C1, 307 SA N° Tanah Morah. MUSSELBURGH

NFT 191481 Morah. 2.40 (1m 1/21 Byda) 1, OCHAN PARK. A Clut (4-1). 2, Losidogforardial.tw (16-1): 3, Regnand Sam (25-1). 3-1 fav Eskirno Nei 13 ran. Shuk, bú (Lady Herried) Tois: 52.70. 51.50. 54.00. 520.40. Dual F (38.60. CSF: CB1.14. Tricast 37.318.18. NF Labudd

Labudi a.10 (SF 215)dat 1. ATRAF, R Hill (16-1): 2. Maria 1. J. Wisani (S-4 fau), 7 (16-1): 2. Maria 1. Wisani (S-4 fau), 7 (10-2): 2. Maria 1. J. Wisani (S-4 fau), 7 (10-2): 2. Mospeak (R-1): 3. Manshar (S-1 lay), 9 ran, 13, ni: (S court foto: (S-7); 2-(2-00, 1: 30, Dual F 218, 50, CSF: 248, 62 Tric: (27.80, NR: Deeply Vale, French Gampar.

Ginger. S-10 (77): 1, INNER CIRCLE, J Rold (4-1). 2, Pepeha (2-1 (s-); 3, Royal Diversion (10-1). 17 rm. 1.4. (P Cluppis-Hysm) Toto: 24 80: (2.80, E200, E20, Dual F-58.40, CSF). C13.04. Tric: (20.80, NR: Lady Benson. JACKGOT: Not work, (2.388.09 certred for-word to proceeding

GUADPOTI CTO2.40.

LINGFIELD

2.00 (B(): 1, BLL(0), Pet Eddary (4-6 fav); 5. Irish Fistion (9-4); 3. Nolly Manis (20-1): 6 ran. 18. 5. (3 Lowes) Toty E1.40; 51.10,12 10. Dasi F: 51.10. GSF. 52.05, 2.30 (52: 1), IECHYD-DA, M Fenton (5-2); 2, Clayethyner (1-10 far); 3, Seity Behav-loor (5-2), 3 ran. 21, X, (M Bell) Tols: \$3.30. Dusi F (2.20, CSF (25.00. DUST P 12 BIL CSP 14 BL 3.00 (1m 2f): 1, THORNWAMA, N Baird (14-1); 2, Zahld (7-1), 3, Polly Peanline PLACEPOTI (45.20,



Highland Wedding, Specify, Aldaniti and Party Politics are all the progeny of such premium stallions. Ecologically horses are preferable to engines and there has been a minor revival of their use. Heavy horses are ideal for forestry work as they can reach areas which would be inaccessible to tractors and they cause less damage Two Shires have been employed at Richmond by the Royal Parks Agency, which plans an experiment with the same breed in Hyde Park. "A Shire can pull as much as

stops, they are economic,' said David Welch, the agen Royal Ascot ... betting-shop bonanza for endangered species cy's chief executive.

Double and ban for Fortune Pat Eddery won on his Spark, saddled another smart two-year-old in

Sweet Emmaline to win the IMMY FORTUNE had opening Carlyle Place mixed luck yesterday at Musselburgh where Maiden Auction Stakes. The filly was making an he rode a double and received a two-day 800-mile round trip from Turner's yard and showed her appreciation of the sharp Musselburgh track with a five-lengths victory nsion He was successful on Kilernan in the Pinkie Handicap and Swan Hunter in the over Swino. Stoneybank Maiden Stakes but his celebrations were dampened when the stew-ards found him guilty of using his whip with unrea-

David Hadert

onable frequency on his first winner. His ban takes effect on Saturday, April 13, and Monday, April 15. Bill Turner, the Somer-set-based trainer who won the Brocklesby at Doncas-

ter last month with Indian

Rowing

50 (TOL 1, BREN HAAS, N Dartey (3-1) Construction of the second sec Christopher Dodd

T WAS unmire's rehearsa day at Putney yesterday and the protagonists for tomorrow's Boat Race took turns to practise starts from the stakeboat under orders from Mike Sweeney, the man in charge. Oxford's one attempt to de-part under full power was unimpressive. After 20 strokes they had dropped their rating to 42 but took nine strokes to

reach cover - the point

where the stroke's blade

race himself. It is the fifth time he has umpired the Boat attempts brought a similar result. The performances are Race and, as the chairman of Henley Royal Regatta and the International Rowing Federanot comparable in every detail because Cambridge were nearer the top of the tide than tion's regattas commission, he comes with impressive Oxford, But the result hints credentials. that Cambridge make their Umpiring the Boat Race, boat run more effectively however, is not recommended than Oxford, which would

for a good night's sleep. Whereas advice beforehand is ing the whole pantomime to the first umpire of the freely available in abun- be delayed for 24 hours. Wind tury to disqualify anyone.

by John Pritchard, who once umpired the reserves' race, as "avoid the bridges and try not

Sweepey's first attempt at umpiring the race was a fiasco when Cambridge's cox Peter Hobson, having listed "barge bending" among his bobbles in the programme, demonstrated his seriousness by ramming a barge during his crew's warm-up and causthe first umpire of the cen-

and rough water can play havoc with lining the boats up on the stakeboat and, once the race is under way, it is the umpire's interpretation of the position of the stations, not

second to taking part.

the coxes', that counts. This is why the coxes Kevin Whyman and Todd Kristol drove launches over the course at high tide yesterday, accompanied by Sweeney. He wants them to know where he thinks the centre of the tide is. And he has no desire to be

ning (Sc

As passes finally began to stick N&M flashed the ball wide to the winger John Kerr who crossed for an unconverted try and a passport to Europe.

DOIT to Starope. Stark (Boroughmuir). I Jardine, M MoGraendies, K Logan (all Stirling (Wathonians): A Watt (GHK). G Mulloch (Wathon Kicimhans, S Remro (both GHK). M Norwal (Stirling County). F Wathore (Koroughmuk, cap). M Walace (GHK), I Starkir (Watsonians).

(GISC), I Giastair (Walsonians). NORTH AND MIDLANQS: S Rores (Eduburgh Academicals): N Reston (Education), P Rossa (Dandes High), A Carrathers (Kirkesidy), J Kerr (Watsonians): M McKenzie, K Harper (Watsonians): III Molection, K Har (onth Sithing Country): W Ander (Kirksaldy), K Helfende (Stirting Cour D Merriegton (Kirksaldy), S Canego (Jourdos High), S Grinsee (Watsonians) Molwor (Edinburgh Academucals, capt Floekhart (Stirling County), Wednerfield (Watsonians).



colours of Caryl Harris, wife of the winning trainer Peter Harris, who has his biggest ever string of 70 borses this season. Monday.

give them a lead tomorrow

along the Putney boathouses,

Gary Hind, who suffered a horrific fall in Calcutta late last year, opened his turf account for 1996 in the Brunton Ball Handicap on Princess Tara, who won the Fern Hil Stakes at Ascot. To The Roof, who shoul-dered top weight to lose his He will now have about a month's rest before going maiden tag. To The Roof carries the for the Garter Stakes at As-

regarded as exemplars of excot in May." pansive rugby who keep the ball in hand. Even so, tradi-• Racing takes its tradi-tional Good Friday off. tional opponents such as Leicester and the East Midresuming with six meetings tomorrow and 16 on Raster lands (who comprised the entire Northampton team last

d'être was being threatened by the reluctance of Britain's leading players to add to the pressure of domestic and inonly mount of the day at Lingfield with a smooth rnational competition during a busy season. As their club secretary Geoffrey Windlength-and-a-quarter suc-cess on the odds-on Bilko in sor-Lewis says, the Barbar-ians have also, force majeure, the Tandridge Maiden Stakes, giving the Epsom trainer Geoff Lewis his first become "a development forum for talented younger players who still have a reputation to make at the highest two-year-old victory of the season. Lewis, who has 28 juve-niles in his stable this sea-son, said: "This one has been showing ability at home. I trained his dam, Deinear Thus mhe may the evel". Alex King, the Bristol University and England A flyhalf, has been a recent beneficiary Such is the continuing prestige of the Barbarians that Cardiff will be eager to give them a heavy beating. The Barbarians are widely

four tons on level ground.

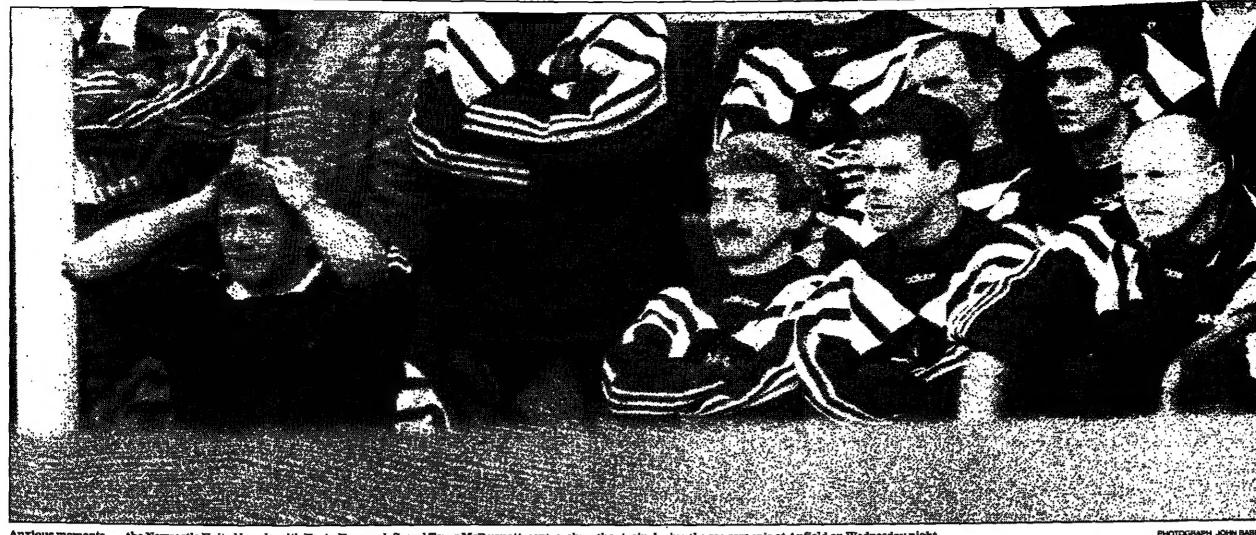
With light loads and frequent

14 SPORTS NEWS

The Guardian Friday April 5 1996

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Monty Sl Main bu Main bu



Anxious moments . . . the Newcastle United bench, with Keyin Keegan, left, and Terry McDermott, centre, show the strain during the see saw epic at Anfield on Wednesday night

Was this epic the game of the decade?

David Lacey on the breathtaking Liverpool-Newcastle match that created a lifetime memory for those privileged to watch it

AD Liverpool and And this the side that had Newcastle United nearly closed the books by the been in the business third week in January, when of winning Oscars they were 12 points ahead. winning Oscars the award for best screenplay would now be theirs for the sharing following Wednesday's excitement at Anfield. In Newcastle's case this was an epic waiting to hap-pen, there had been 3-3 rehearsals at Wimbledon and Manchester City and, as with many epics, it was necessary to suspend rational thought

fully to enjoy the experience. The reality is that Newcas-tile's 4-3 defeat by Liverpool, for whom Stan Collymore scored the winning goal in heart-stoppage time, was their fourth loss in six Pre-miership matches which have gained them only four points. As a result Manchester United will go into the Easter programme three points ahead at the top, having now played only one game more than Kevin Keegan's team. No wonder the bookmakers

Apr 6 Man City away

night, however, it was hard to think logically after a match which drained every emotion they were 12 points ahead. Keegan's players could be six behind by the time they except that of exultation that English football could put on such a breathtaking spectacle face Blackburn on Monday night. For, even if they beat without, apparently, feeling the need to draw breath itself. QPR at home tomorrow, and assuming Manchester United do not slip up against City at Maine Road, the leaders can Crucial to the entertain-ment was the mutual desire by Liverpool and Newcastle to play attacking football regardless of risk and, in Livstill steal a march on their erpool's case especially, the quality of their finishing. The flagging pursuers when Coventry visit Old Trafford on Monday, Liverpool are still a two goals apiece scored by Collymore and Robbie Fowler couple of footfalls further were striking examples of the striker's art. Yet the game would not have raised Anfield

back. These thoughts were clear enough as a brilliant morning dawned over the North-west

Manchester Utd

THE FINAL RUN-IN

festly inept. Newcastle appeared to have

adopted the defensive princi-ples laid down in Never-Never Land: if you look back at the energy through your legs they will take fright and run away. To concede one goal by allowing a low centre to beat the entire defence was careless enough; to concede a second in like manner was

criminally negligent. On the night, however, this seemed a mere detail, like the dreadful foul on Steve McManaman which might have seen David Batty sent off or when John Barnes got away with a half-push-half-trip which brought down Faustino Asprilla in the Liverpool penalty area. This match has joined that

dawned over the North-west to such feverish heights of ex-yesterday. The previous citement had the defending of quoted as examples of what

both sides not been so mani-festly inept. | should be. Multi-move attacking might have been met by

Movietone News defending but nobody who was at An-field on Wednesday will over forget the pleasurable pound-ing of the senses that these teams provided. If Keegan glanced up on his way home he might have spotted a lunar eclipse. Cer-

tainly Newcastle's first cham-pionship for 69 years is now in imminent danger of being blotted out by a red shadow. Ferguson knows his team need only keep winning to

regain the title. But will they? The next three of their remaining six fixtures are against teams desperate for points - Manchester City, Coventry and Southampton. Keegan's immediate problem is the strained hamstring which forced Steve Howey off and

could keep him out for the rest of the season. With Southgate, Adams and Pallister already nursing in-juries, the watching Terry Venables did not need an-

Lacey's Super Six

WEDNESDAY's metch at Anfield compares with the most exciting in the game's history. Apart from the 1953 Matthews Cup final, clumet a click per hilfs almost a cliché now, half-a-dozen others of like character and plot spring to mind.

January 10, 1948 FA Cup, third round: Aston Villa 4, Manchester United 6 A crowd of 65,000 saw Aston Villa go ahead through Edwards after 13 seconds. By half-time, however. Rowley, Morris, Pearson, Morris again and Delaney had given United a 5-1 lead. Edwards, Smith and Dorsett then brought Villa back to 5-4, only for Pearson to sixth for United. add

February 1, 1958 First Division: Arsenal 4, Manchester United 5 This game will always be remembered as the Busby Babes' valediction. Within a other England centre-back to go lame. However, the perfories is hed in the Munich air



Davies . . . shook Spurs

Rugby League

an Malin

June 17, 1970 World Cup semi-finals: Italy 4, West Germany 3 For the most part this was a tight-knit affair, with the Germans struggling to draw level after Boninsegna's early goal. Then Schnellinger scored in the 89th minute and defendtime as another five goals recovery. By the 24th minute were freely exchanged. vera getting the winner. February 7, 1973 FA Cup fourth-round replay: Tottenham Hotspur 3,

Always remembered as Roger Davies's greatest game, this tie seemed all over when Spurs, who had drawn 1-1 at the Baseball Ground, led 3-1 with less than 10 minutes remaining. Then Hector and Davies brought the scores level, the latter completing a hat-trick in extra-time.

February 20, 1991 FA Cup fifth-round replay: Everton 4, Liverpool 4 After a scoreless draw at An-field the teams let it oli hang out at Goodison. Cottee thwarted Liverpool with a goal at the end of normal time and another late in extra-time. Two days later a stressed-out Kenny Dalglish resigned as Liverpool man-ager. And Everton won the second replay.

January 4, 1994 Premier League: lverpool 3, **Manchester United 3** A match notable for United's start and Liverpool's

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now make Alex Ferguson's Apr 8 Coventry home United odds on favourites to Apr 13 Southampton away bring the league title to Old Apr 17 Leeds home Apr 27 Nottin Forest home May 5 Middlesbrough away Trafford for the third time in four seasons, while Newcastle have drifted to 2-1 against.

Apr 8 Blackburn away Apr 14 Aston Villa home Apr 17 Southampton home Apr 27 Leeds away May 1 Notim Forest away May 5 Tottenham home

Newcastle Utd

Apr 6 QPR home

Apr 6 Coventry away Apr 8 West Ham home Apr 16 Everton away Apr 27 Middlesbrough home May 1 Arsenal away May 5 Man City away

Liverpool

mances of McManaman and Robert Lee more than compensated for this. It was, all in all, an outstanding night not merely for English football but for English footballers.

crash. Leading 3-0 at halftime, United conceded three goals in less than three min-utes in the second half, only to score twice more before Tottenham Hots Arsenal found the net again. Derby County 5

Bruce, Giggs and Irwin had given United a 3-0 lead but by half-time Clough had responded with two for Liverpool. Ruddock scored their third 11 minutes from the end.

Poached Brown Gravy train prepares to pick up steam

United dear Martin Thorpe reports that the cost of MANCHESTER UNITED may have to pay Old-ham more than 2500,000 if relegation from the Premiership is high their controversial school-

boy signing, David Brown, A Football League com-mission ruled yesterday that United must pay Old-ham £75,000 for Brown following a FA decision, up held on appeal, that they had broken the rules when

could cost

they signed him. United must also pay a further £25,000 if Brown, who is the leading scorer in United's B team, makes five first-team appearances, fol-lowed by £100,000 after 25 appearances and similar payments after 50 and 75 appearances.

Another £23,000 is due from United if Brown is capped at England Under-21 level. and £100,000 if he appears in a senior interpa-tional game.

Some England fans have the chance to give Terry Venables' team a cut-price Results send-off to the European Championship finals. Any of the FA's 6,000-strong Travel Club buying a seat for the Wembley friendly on April 24 against Croatia Soccer PONTINS LEAGUE: Blackburg 2. Derby 2. **Rugby Union** can watch next month's game with Hungary at half EUROPEAN CUP: Play-off: Git Rugby League price.

Match tickets are priced STONES SUPER LEAGUE London Paris 22 AUSTRALIAN PREMIERSHEP: Was Suburba 22. Austiand 8. from £13 to £30 with the Olympic Gallery at £40-£45. That means it could cost Badminton someone less than £20 to watch both internationals. (Norwich Sport Village): C

bs 22.

s S Are

y/J Wright (One

Manchester United's Alex Ferguson has won Carling's Tanata, Hose S Arciser/C Hant (Norch) Lance) bi N Panesa/N Wheelder (Norch) Notis) 18-15, 15-11; J Anderson/I Paur-son (Esseev) bi C Jennings/A Redman (Leics) 15-3, 15-0. Womens J Boot Manager of the Month award for March, while United's Eric Cantona has Womens J Susses) by D Lancel 15-7. taken the player's monthly prize.

Lances 15-7, 15-4, 3 Degreen a Kardaker (Linces/Surroy) bt G Gower/3 Hardaker (Herby Konii 15-7, 15-10, Mixed Gosthieus Seni-tissien: Archer/ Bradberry of J Robertson/L Cole (NODS) Viorcai 16-13, 15-6, 10 Hondberry 15-8, 15-4, Dave Bassett was rewarded for steering Crys-tal Palace into the promo-tion reckoning after eight Baseball unbeaten games with the Endsleigh First Division manager's prize for March. Blackpool's Sam Allar

BASEDCAN NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York 3 St Louis S. Chicago S. San Diego 7' Houston S. Los Angeles 2: Cincingui 4, Montreal 8: Philadelphia 3, Colorado 1; Atlanta 15, San Francisco 2. AMERICAN LEAGUE: Monnesola 16 De-boat 7 Seattle 2, Chicago 4, Cleveland 1 New York 5 Balilmore 7 Kanasa C 1 Texas 7: Boston 2, Calitorna 3 Milwaguee 2:11 mngs), Qakland 4 Toronio 10 dyce took the Second Division award and Stan Ter-nent of Bury the Third Division's.

and from next year should get higher ERE is the Premiership | sort it is no wonder that clubs forecast for the next five years from one club's managing director: at the bottom of the table are anxious not to get thrown off the gravy train. Especially

With the substantial inthe author of the above quote - Colin Barlow of Manches crease expected in the next television deal, the continuter City, one of the clubs hanging on for dear life. ing influx of talented foreign players, all the revamped sta-diums and, this season, the European Championship, the Barlow's answer to the question of how City will cope with relegation is familiarly dangerous: "I haven't con-templated that because I think we are too good to go profile of soccer in this country is due for a dramatic

hike. "It will make soccer a very. down.' The First Division is litvery attractive proposition for increased sponsorship and tered with clubs who thought other commercial investment the same. Of course they were and I believe we are in for a not brought to their knee heady five years, with the relegation, though Swindon graph pointing decidedly upwards." With predictions of that Clubs simply adjust to their

Basketball

Ice Hockey

Snooker

Squash

Table Tennis

ENGLISH OPEN CH

NBA: Cleveland 105 LA Lakera 89; Detroit 98; Charlotte 83; New Jensey 100; LA Clip-pers 94; Philodelphia 87; Indiana 102; New York 85; Orlando 93; San Antonio 117; Sac-ramento 96; Scalle 118, Houston 103; Van-courser 105, Minnesöta 103.

MeL Buffalo 1, Washington S. Montresi 1 Boston 4: Ottawa 3, Fiorida 2; Tampa Bay 4, Hartford 2; Toromb 2; Calcago 5, Winni pag 3, Dallas 1; Colorado 3, St Louita 8 Calgary 4, Vancouver 3; Anahelm 1, Ed monton 0; Los Angeles 2, Detroit 2 (of).

BRITISH OPEN (Plymouth): Seco round S Lee (Engi bi M Hallou (Engi S A Mollismus (Scot) bi S James (Engi S P Ebdon (Engi bi D Taylor (Ni) S-4 Niggles (Scot) bi J Forguson (Engi S-4 Williams (Nales) bi N Foulds (Engi S-1 Headry (Scot) bi J Swall (Ni) 5-1.

Sen 1157 OPEN (Cardiff: Second roand, Merce P Jobsson (Eng) b7 Hands (Eng) (5-17, 15-11, 16-12, 16-15, J Goestat (Fr) of C Walker (Eng) 15-13, 15-48, 12-15, 15-8; 15-11, 15-10, Wanter (Article Content) (A Gough (Wales) 15-8, 15-11, 15-10,

new life and get on with it, | television income earned | clause saying that the spon-dreaming of a quick return to | from Premiership games | sor pays less if the team goes the land of milk and money. shown abroad. Then there are the merit awards, which also come out But loss of status, as in all walks of life, does have its

repercussions. of the television money. This The cost of relegation deseason the Premiership's bot-tom club will receive £49,165, pends on the continuing loyalty of a club's fans and sponthe next club twice that, the sors and the success of the team on the field. But a rough next three times that and so on up to the champions, who estimate puts it anywhere between £1 million and £4

million. Life at the top is increas-ingly lucrative. Each Pre-miership club receives a basic £878,725 at the start of each season from the Sky television deal plus £77.725 every time they appear live which on average is three times. The next deal, starting the season after next, could easily double that figure. On top of that each club

ar Sillington (Eng) bi E Welker (Scol) | 21-18, 16-21, 21-7, 21-18, Womens N Dealers

receive £983,300. Gate receipts, too, are higher in the Premiership. Bolton's average attendances have risen from 13,500 in the First Division last season to 19,000 in the Premiership this

season and, although the club increased their best-ticket price only, from £11 to £15, they stand to make make an extra £1 million on admissions — plus an extra £30,000 from programme sales.

Relegation will also affect merchandising and lottery in-come and sponsorship deals, especially shirt contracts, receives \$7,725 every time merchandising and lottery in-they appear on BBC high-lights and another £50,000 per season each from the pool of which usually contain a

Parisians left behind by But there is a safety net for Broncos' gallop to the top

relegated clubs. The Premiership pays £430,000 to each club for two seasons after they drop. And the new Sky television deal with the Foot ball League from next season will earn the First Division champions £900.000 down to bottom club's £631,000, the with each club pocketing an extra £50,000 each time they appear live.

Relegation also brings a reduction in costs for such items as some players' sala-ries and police charges. Bolion calculated that promotion last season cost them an extra £800,000 in this area.

If things become really bad, relegated clubs can, of course, sell their best players. Though that can jeopardise a quick return to the Premier-ship, which at the bottom line remains the place to be.

Sport in brief

Boxing

After the break the Austraian Ian Turner and Bomati brought Paris back into the game, with McRoe's strength and determination helping

THE game was billed as the tale of two cities and the men from London now have him to a second score close to Great Expectations. After the posts.

their win at Halifax and this exhilarating victory at The Valley they are the early lead-ers of the Super League. Even the crowd of 9,638 exceeded A brilliant piece of individual play by Broncos' scrum-half Leo Dynevor, with 13 minutes left, settled the issue. Twenty yards from the Paris line he chipped the ball skyexpectations. The pre-match entertain-ment included songs from the

Super League: London 38, Paris 22

wards and it set up perfectly for him to gather and dive local boys, Squeeze, and fire-works by the players' tunnel. The crowd's favourite There were plenty of pyro-technics on the pitch too. Broncos survived the loss of unior. Paul, a former Rugby Union player from Bexley-heath close by won the loud-est cheer of the evening for

their prop Gavin Allen, who left the field with a broken Broncos' sixth try two minleft arm in the second minute, utes later. and ran in seven tries. The French replacement Barwick, Tollett and Car-Ramondo and the impressive roll were elusive runners be-hind the scrum and with the game a quarter old the Paris Tollett, with his second score and Broncos' seventh try. exchanged scores in the final two minutes. Dynevor took lefence was breached for the first time. Allen's replace-ment, Mestroy, gave Meyer the opportunity to break Luc-chese's tackle for the first try over kicking duty and landed the last conversion and it was Bonsoir Paris.

Billy Hardy's European feath-erweight title defence against It was almost a perfect night for the Broncos but Allen was followed into the medical room by Barwick, in the left-hand corner. Stefano Zoff of Italy in San

A penalty by Toreilles kept the scoreboard moving before the Broncos' stand-off Duncan who pulled a hamstring in a dash to the visitors' line. McRae, with a neat side-step and a swerving 25-yard run, stretched the Broncos' lead. London Broncost Darwick, Faur, Tollell, Carrolt, McRed, Dynovor, Bawden Ras, Allen, Shaw, Pitt, Mallerson Rubstitutes, Mostrov, Bryan, Kosing Excellent passing by the French backs gave Cervello

the opportunity to stretch his legs with a try in the opposite corner before Tollett touched down to give the Broncos a handy 16-6 interval lead.

'I won't resign' says Robinson

Paul Fitzpatrick

said yesterday that he had no intention of standing

عكذا من الاجل

Frongs Super Leaguet Strongs Super Leaguet Leads (all-licket); Oldham v Halifax (3,0); Sheffield v Brackotd; Si Helens v Wigan (3,00); Warnington v Workington (3,0); First Develoury v Balley; Rochdala v Keighley; Sallord v Workington, Si Wake-field v Featherstone; Whitehaven v Hud-dersfield (3,3). Second: Barrow v Car-Isle; Charley v Doncaster (3,0); Hunstey v South Wakes; York v Hull KR (3,15). 21-18, 16-31, 21-7, 21-18, Wienward M. Doadon (Eng) bi N Williams (Walaa) 21-8, 21-7, 21-16, L Badfard (Malaa) 21-8, 21-7, 21-16, L Badfard (Eng) iz S Badan (Walad) bit C Gillos (Eng) 21-13, 21-15, 22-25, 4 Badbarts (Eng) bit R Joseph (Tanz) 21-10, 21-8, 21-4, H Lowan (Eng) bit L Thombon (Eng) 21-13, 21-17, 21-13, 0 Schwartz (Eng) bit S Wellort (Ger) 23-21, 24-22, 18-21, 19-21, 28-25, Keadfard (Eng) bit C Hengshaman (Nohl) Basketball BUOWNESSER LEAGUE: Leopards mingham (8.0). Hockey

Rugby League

EUROPEAN CUP FOR CLUB CHARPE-ONS: A Division: Nam (HDM, The Hague): Guiddord v Beaternhang (Hugi): Valdeluz v Gordonian, Wormed (Rotterdam): High-own v Dynamo Sumy (Ukr). B Division Ourofeel: FA CARLING PREMERSHIP: Widdles brough v Sheft Wed (5.45). IRECLERCH LEAGUE: First Division

Charlton V Luton (2 15). NCIS LEAGUES Second Division: Tilbury V Collier Row. FEDERATION BREWIGTY NORTHERN LEAGUE First Division: ATM Newcasilo

LEAGUNE First Divisions Hills reversion of from Law Tri, Shildon v W Auckland, GREAT MILLS LEAGURE Pression Di-letone Barnsteple Th v Bidelord To: Calne Th v Chippenham Tri, Namgotsfield Uld v Brislington, Paulton Rivs v Frome To; Tr-verton To v Emore. PONTINE LEAGURE First Divisions Liv-man & Leagure Trick Southout [Ci.

15-11, 15-10. Wonser: C Jackman (Eng) bi V Cardwy (Aus) 9-1, 9-6, 9-6; F Gerwes (Eng) bi Macree (Eng) 9-5, 9-0, 9-0. AVON INSURANCE CONDUCT FC. AVON INSURANCE CONDINATION: First Division: Forsmouth v Juswich (20), S-E COUNTRE LEAGUE: First Division Delements to League To

Erratuant Urman CHAMPURSHIPS (Kol-taring): Qualifying groups, second stages Nava A Perry (Eng) bt J Verhula (Hem) 21-15, 21-15, 19-21, 21-16; A Edea (Eng) bt S Noskov (Russ) 21-15, 21-19, 16-21 21-19, **81 Scienciber** (Switz) 61 8 Johnson (Eng) 12-21, 21-18, 21-15, 21-15, A Edea (Eng) bt S Noskov (Russ 21-15 21-19, 16-21 21-19 A Perry Eng) bt J Verhulst (Nethy 21-15, 21-15, 19-21, 21-16, Portsmouth v Ipswich FAI CUP: Serol-lina Patricks Alls (7.45).

Rugby Union

Fixtures

(7.30 unless stated)

Soccer

CLUB: Camborne v Si lives (3 0) Rednith St Mary s Hospital (3 0; Weston-S-Mar Pres X v Sumerset Presidents (3 0)

Remo on April 25 has been postponed because the champion from Sunderland has a shoulder injury. Steve Robinson, the former WBO feather-weight champion from Cardiff, has been offered a surprise tilt at the American Tom Johnson's IBF crown

(Clandes): EASTER PESTIVALS: Blackpool (10.0); Brean (WSN); Canterbury (12.0); Folke-stone (10.45); Torbay (10.0); Weymouth; next month. Motorcycling

Worthing SOX-NATIONS YOUTH TOURNAMENTS Australia's Daryl Beattie, runner-up in last season's world 500cc championship, as withdrawn from Sunday

• Liz McColgan will lace one of Europe's finest young runners, Anneman Sendell, in the Bupa Skin international in Pors-mouth tomorrow wark. Last year the 15-year-old Fins sel European junior 5.000m and 10.000m records on the track and won the European sentor cross country title at Afrwida. Indonesian Grand Prix. He was concussed in a fall during practice for the first race in Malaysia.

Indea have complianed to the internetional Tennes Federation over remerks made by the captule of Sweden a Davis Gup featin, Garf-Arel Hagetog He is a leged to have called the the in Calculate a have match' and added. 'The indum have been used to directlif it least like maches the match' and set of the match and the matc

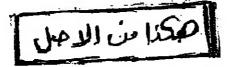
Tennis Boris Becker has bronchitis and will miss Germany's Davis Cup quarter-final against France in Limoges at

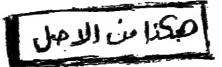
Smith Paris St Germalia: Luccheae; Bomall, Turnor, Charnorin, Cervelic: Brown, Ontat Kacala, Torrolline, Utokamana, Adante, Cabestary, Poch. Sebattablea Dovechi, Caustiae, Recruited

The 54-year-old Robinson

director who faces a similar charge. They were ar-rested after police investi-gated an alleged fake no intention of standing transfer deal involving the down as Wigan's chairman. club's prop Neil Cowie.

will appear before Wigan magistrates on May 8 along with John Martin, a fellow JACK ROBINSON, who will appear in court next month to answer a charge of conspiracy to defraud,





Cricket

Nine now in race for selectors' jobs

Don Beut

Golf

EOFF MILLER and Chris Cowdrey nipped in at the last minute to join the scramble to become England selectors as the nine-man field was de-scribed as "potentially em-barrassing" by Tony tion as I don't think the the scramble to become England selectors as the nine-man field was de-

Baker, chief executive of first-past-the-post system is lot which will produce the Hampshire — the county ideal when there are nine men to join Baymond II-that nominated Miller. After confirming the former Derbyshire and Eng-land all-rounder as their choice, Baker, a member of

been better to have had a tion committee two-tier system for reaching the final two selections. Kent picked Cowdrey, their former captain, be-fore Lord's stipulated mid-night on April 17 as the Barnett, Graham Gooch, Miller and Cowdrey. deadline for the postal bal-

Questions still remain about Botham's media commitments, Gooch and Barnett's playing duties and Gravency's opposition to Il-lingworth in last month's The full list of nomin tions, released yesterday, is lan Botham, David Gra-veney, Fred Titmus, Brian Bolns, John Edrich, Kim abortive chairman-of-selec-tors contest. But the counties now have nearly a fortnight to consider logi-cally who would be best suited to selectors' duties.

Lord's stressed yesterday that a circular to counties sent out by the TCCB chief executive Alan Smith had been designed to give guidance rather than to comment unfavourably on Botham's potential clash of interests. "Alan was cerinterests. tainly not trying to put the block on anyone," said the TCCB's Richard Little.

SPORTS NEWS 15



Extra time Edited by Jaremy Alexander

Rugby clubs gang up on Orkney

post but mainland clubs are giving them the cold shoulder. Orkney recently won the North District League, which qualified them for the play-offs for a place in National League Division Seven. These are a four-cornered affair

four-cornered affair against the winners of the Midlands DL (Carnoustie), the Glasgow DL (Helens-burgh) and the Edinburgh DL (Heriot-Watt Universi-ty). Each plays all and two are promoted. But, even before Orkney

are sure of elevation, Division Seven clubs are jib-bing at the time and exislands, separated from the mainland by 6% miles of the Pentland Straits. The Scottish Rugby Union has called a meeting of Division Six and Seven clubs at Murrayfield next Wednes-day. Notwithstanding the have not jibbed at the invi-tation to put their case. The SRU Championship

RKNEY are attempt-ing to become rugby union's northern out-ost but mainland clubs are that mainland clubs are Orkney's secretary, said from Kirkwall: "On a matter of principle we think we should have the chance of appearing in a play-off." The competition rules bridge no

The Orkney club are 30 years old and run two senior sides. As the short sea-crosssides. As the short sea-cross-ing operates only in sum-mer, they go by boat to Ab-erdeen (£50 a head), then coach: or they fly. "We have a travel budget of £20,000 next season, should we get into the National League." says Groundwater. "This 5cason we have spent scason we have spent around £12,000."

He admits it is expensive for visiting clubs, who are looking for a subsidy from the SRU. But it is not half as expensive as for Orkney. In a division of 14 clubs they would have to make the crossing six or seven times whereas only half the other clubs would have to go to the islands.

cress mousseline in tarracon

and white wine sauce with new potatoes and julienne o

Rugby, by the way, is gathering strength in Mull secretary Gregor Nicholson says: "The SRU is conand the Outer Rebrides.

Sixth column

HE changes in the Olym-pic athletics programme to accommodate Michael Johnson mean that all Britain's golden eggs may be laid on the same day. The men's triple jump final (Jonathan Edwards?) is now on Saturday July 27, the same day as the finals of the 4,000m pursuit (Graeme Obree), the coxless pairs (Redgrave/Pinsent) and fours, the women's cance slalom (Lynn Simpson, world champion) and, for what it is

worth, the men's 100m.

lozen sacks.

carrots and celery, followed by cheeses and tiramisu. This fitted the stipulated carbohydrate count. Subsidised steaks from Dewhurst are distant history. Despite his initials, Adam Richard Aylmer Frost denies

he was born with an oar in his mouth. "Perhaps a wooden spoon." he says. WIGAN's first Challenge Cup defeat in nine sea-sons has undermined their

air of impregnability - un-less their summons of a psy-chic with tarot cards on Wednesday was a Super League gimmick. Stephanie Justice, aged 21, saw There may be fun the day before too, on the softball

Monty short again but still sub-par

David Davies in Atlanta

he holed a chip for an eagle which cost Ferguson \$10.

DLIN Montgomerie when, in the BellSouth Classic at the Atlanta Country Club yesterday, he got round in 71, one under. Montgo-merie, pleased but not ec-static, said: "That's safe. Nothing untoward." It left him seven shots be-

hind the early leaders Jim Gallagher jnr and John Wil-son, who had rounds of 66, while the left-hander Russ Cochran chipped in for an eagle at the last for a 67. Cochran's playing partner Sandy Lyle could only look on

enviously as the American holed out. Lyle had two-put-ted practically every green and as his watching wife Jo-lande said: "You can't make cuts, let alone win tournaments, if you're taking 33 putts per round." Lyle had, in fact, hit the

reen at the long 18th with a drive and four-iron and took his usual two putts for what was his only birdie in a round of 73. "I think I'm working too hard," he said. "Twe been put-

The bet was not operative yesterday, a fact that Ferguson rued at the end of a round in which Montgomerie had left no fewer than eight putts short. "The greens are a bit grainy," the Scot said, "and I couldn't get the pace of them when putting into the grain. We'll have to have the bet going again for the first round of the Masters [next week] just to make sure I get up to the hole.

It cannot have helped that one of his playing partners was Don Pooley, a US Tour veteran who has a putting stroke that should cause him to be called P-P-Pooley. It further hask here and once stutters back slowly and spasmodically before making a fairly unconvincing pass at the ball. It is not a soothing sight and after a while Mont gomerie began to study his own feet whenever the American was putting.

Having started at the 10th, the Scot hit an excellent shot into the 18th to go one under and his round looked as if it might take off when he at last holed a putt, at the 5th, from 20 feet. But at the short 6th all hard," he said. "Two been put-ting in five or six hours a day | the wind that funnels down a trying to make a couple of tree-lined valley, took too things automatic and I've not much club and finished





1 behindbi

lop to theil

hands are sore.' Lyle has played six events

in the US this year, finished in the top 20 in three and missed the cut in the other three. He is in dire danger of missing the cut here too for. as he said: "You've got to come out of the shute quickly

and then keep firing. You can't ease your way into a tournament over here." Montgomerie had a great many chances to be even more under par but once again his putting let him down. Over the last 36 holes of last weekend's Players Championship he had a bet with his coach Bill Ferguson that, for every putt he left short, he would pay out \$5. He

relax. I'm all stiff and my marie was in a bunker, came merie was in a bunker, came out to six feet and failed again to hit the putt hard enough. The last three holes are all hirdie chances for tournament players but at each of them Montgomerie left a birdie putt short, an exasper ating failing after hitting a series of good shots. Ian Woosnam's 72 looked

like being much lower when he started with birdies at the 2nd and 4th. But he missed a birdie putt at the 5th and two holes later his drive finished in the face of a fairway bunker. His recovery plugged in another bunker and that meant a double-bogey six and the momentum was lost.

"I keep getting stuck on 72 these days," he said ruefully. ended up in profit for, al-though he left one putt short, him much next week.

Guildford's first time in

Hightown, however, are old

Snooker

Clive Everton in Plymouth

OHN HIGGINS, the de-fending champion, and the title favourite Stephen Hendry took contrasting routes to the last 16 of the British Open here yesterday. Higgins had to recover from +3 down to deny Mansfield's Jason Ferguson a famous victory. "I was shaking all the way through my last break," Higgins admitted after his concluding 58 set up a 5-4 victory and a third-round match with Trowbridge's former English amateur champion

title success in 1996, went out to meet Joe Swail for the third time in a month two hours behind schedule. But he soon but the tournament back on track for time with an easy 5-1 success in what he described later as "a preity dire match".

Hendry's best break was a modest 56. He plays Nigel Bond today.

The delay was due to a match of epic proportions fea-turing Peter Ebdon and Dennis Taylor. After a controversial final frame when the snookered Taylor was called for five successive misses by referee Colin Brinded, Ebdon

held his nerve to win 5-4. The former world cham-pion Taylor was bot in a good mood later, saying: "He didn't deserve to win. But Peter got a couple of outrageous flukes and was also on the right end (Russia), Bohemians Prague of a dubious refereeing

The inner game . . . Mike Hall demonstrates a meditative movement of Tai Chi with racket Protograph MURDO MACLEOD

The Tao of the killer boast

Erlend Clouston, seeker of backhand truth, goes on court and falls at the feet of Britain's first New Age squash guru, Mike Hall

Nicol and the England No. 1 Del Harris in defeat.

severe on anything that

was not tight or deep in

length, and never recov-ered his momentum after narrowly failing to peg back a five-point deficit in

Walker found Bonetat

Hockey Europe test **Higgins has** for Guildford to sweat

Pat Rowley

GUILDFORD's men and Hightown's women, last year's domestic cup winners, represent England in the European Cup Winners' Cup over the next four days — the men in The Hague and the women in Rotterdam. It is Europe as there was no Cup Winners' Cup when they last won the HA Cup in 1978. Europe hands. They recently won a bronze medal in the European Indoor Champion-Stephen Lee. Hendry, without a ranking

ships for the second time and they were sliver-medal win-ners in the Cup Winners' Cup on their previous appearance three years ago. England have collected a medal in all five previous Cup Winners' competitions and Hightown's target is to emu-

late Sutton, who took gold in 1982. The Whral-based club will have to rid themselves of

the tenseness that prevented them putting the National League title out of everyone's reach last weekend. Richard Jago in Cardiff

But even without the in-CHRIS WALKER, one of the squad that won Engjured Chris Cook they should head their group from Din-amo Sumy (Ukraine), Liberland men's first world title tas Saba (Italy) and Rotter last year, became the third home hope to crash out of an increasingly unpredict-able Leekes British Open dam. If they do so, they are likely to meet Berliner.

Guildford, with Danny Hall, Ian Jennings and Don Wil-liams in attack, should finish here yesterday. The No. 6 seed from Essex was in trouble from the first or second in their group start against the creative increasing daring, referee as he came off: "Did Frenchman Julien Bonetat retrieved as himbly as a you give me a warning? He and was besten 16-13, 15-9, squirrel and played to 2 told you to go and piss and 12-15, 15-8 to join the more consistent length you did nothing." and the German newcomers Durkheimer.

T DID seem very effective, this new approach. Mike Hall's shiny tracksuit bot-toms bounded around the art like a pair of india-rub-r aubergines as he sniped ball effortessly up against court like a pair of india-rubber aubergines as he sniped the ball effortlessly up against the back wall. "Are you feeling tired?" he inquired politely. The enswer, privately, was yee: Hall, playwright, mystic

and professional squash guru with the possible answer to movement and stillness at the same time," he intoned from Britain's sporting problems, the back of the court, cracking away another winner. Hall, a 39-year-old Scouser, is Britain's first New Age squash coach. As part of the is a daunting opponent on many levels. It would not

do, however, to admit do, nowever, to addition inadequacy. What was it Hall had mur-mured in the cafe before-hand? "The biggest route into process of helping people im-prove their game, he tries to understand their minds. At the unconscious is observing body movement." If he was so adept at psychic sleuthing, let one may become a better him work out his opponent's condition for himself. player and a better human.

"Take Este," Hall had said as he sipped a pre-match juice. "She had problems with The Aubergine Man continued to spray the ball about la-conically. He seemed to have her authoritarian dad. She gelatine hips, revolving them this way and that like a dewanted me to teach her every-thing. Now I could pick up on that and got her to increase her self-esteem." Hall got her mented Hawaiian. "Our centres of gravity are too high," har self-esteem." he continued, gracefully pir-ouetting into a fearsome over-head smash. "One of the reasons Jonah Barrington created for her". to come on court and consider "the restrictions she had cre-ated and those that had been

This is heavy stuff for squash coach, even one from Liverpool. Hall, it will come as no surprise to learn, has written (and had performed) two plays about social inade-quacy and believes physical problems stem from emocrudely, our leading lights topple over too easily. The slippery Hall, in contrast, is positively buoyant. "In theory there should be tional upsets which can translate into cancerous outbursts

in the body's endocrine sys-tem. His Edinburgh-based company 4D-Sports intro-duces, it claims, "the inner Tao of squash". The guru continued: "What

we have come to understand is that people who apply for essons bring with them more than a decision to be better squash players. For me to improve their game I knew I had to address the whole aspect of the individual." One squash pupil turned out to have been attacked by

his mother with a knife. "He had so much fear in his body he could hardly move on court," Hall explained. To unravel the bundles of neuroses who present them-selves for his clinics at Marco's Leisure Centre in central Edinburgh, Hall has enlisted

the 600-year-old Chinese disci-pline of Tai Chi. Resembling slow-motion shadow-boxing,

SIR JOHN HALL having discovered what the ice hockey event was that his Durham Wasps had reached this relies heavily on the practitioner sinking deeply into his or her pelvic area. In theory the body ceases to be compartmentalised into at Wembley last weekend, thought it worthy of his attenchest, waist and legs; instead dance. He arrived and deone becomes a sinuous manded 16 front-row seats. human hosepipe, a perfectly poised athletic weapon. "There are 108 separate Offered four, he settled for ome elsewhere.

It was an ill-starred visit. The Wasps lost their semimovements specially geared for the Western physique." Hall said, rattling off some pofinal to Nottingham Panthers. Behind him were supporters tential sporting applications. For example, England fast bowlers, propelled by inner flexibility rather than rigid strength, should be able to deof the Durham City Wasps, a club born out of the ashes of Sir John's expropriation. They did not miss the chance to express their sense of liver 50 per cent quicker. betrayal. Players of contact sports

Players of contact sports are warned by this former Liverpool Schools Under-is midfielder: "The more rigid you are, the nearer death you are, When I am hit hard in a tackle, the pain goes straight through me, like a lightning conductor." SQUASH got on the Inter-net in time for this week's British Championships. The Squash Rackets Association was known to be planning its own site and, as word spread, one surfer tried SRA for the hourly update of results. He On court the pain was all knew the same was masochis

going one way as those auber-gine legs swayed this way and tic but not quite satanic ritual that. "You can sit in front of a therapist and hide. I am able AS Oxford's stroke for the Boat Race tomorrow to see what is going on inside Adam Frost is used to setting the pace. On Wednesday evepeople's minds by observing their movement patterns," Hall had declared. Afterwards he analysed my

game for me in terms of yang, the active principle, and yin, the passive. "Your back-hand," he declared, "was defi-nitely yin." in Barnes, he was setting it in the kitchen too. Between rowing at Eton and PPE at Oriel he cooked his way to a Cordon Bleu in Paris.

Taipeh. celebration" in their past. She

comes from Wigan. In the **ODAY's** fixtures include present she saw victory and Kampala v London Irish. The Exiles, who play a glory but warned against over-confidence. In the future Uganda XV on Monday, are she ventured no further than the first European rugby today: Wigan will beat St Helteam to visit the country in a ens 24-17.

The club's marketing man-ager David Bradshaw said they hoped she might be able guarter-century. Delicate touring teams nowadays take their own food, if not chef. The Irish took wagon-wheels to forewarn them of "injuries - 20 crates of them. But their or opposition tactics". And image is unbroken. The bis-cuits were for children.

FROM Canford School in Dorset to the Sun Court There was other bounty in old boots, jerseys and shorts. Post-Amin the game struggles Hotel in Fife. is more than for want of funds and equip-ment. The Irish raised three 1,000 miles. Each has a real tennis court and there are 18 between. Next week Mark

emmence and Bobby Pugh intend to play a set on all 20 in 33 hours, setting a record inside the 34 hours 28 minutes when there were only 18. They cannot afford to run behind time or forget the court-door codes. They are sneaking into Lord's at 10pm; it closes at 10.30. They are due at Newmarket at 1am and Moreton Morrell at 4.15am.

DAVID JONES goes for his sixth world title on Mon-day in Garthorpe, near Ossett. He comes from Meltham, near Huddersfield, works in a dyehouse factory, is a part-time fireman and is competing this year in the national fell-running series. But he goes to Garthorpe as world coal carrying champion. The race dates from a bet

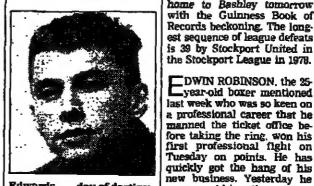
forged in the Beehive Inn in 1963. It has been annual since. Thirty women, then 30 men will run from the Royal Oak 1,012 metres uphill to the maypole by the Beehive. The men carry a 50kg sack of coal — it used to be a hundred-

weight - the women 20kg. On Sunday seven sewers will be sewing sacks against spillage.

Astrange result ap-peared in the Southern Division of the Beazer Homes ning, traditionally the coaches' dining in night at the Dark Blues' headquarters eague on Wednesday: Tonbridge Angels 0, Poole Town 2. Poole had lost all 36 games this season - 23 league and five cup. It seemed too good to be true. It was. Tonbridge won 5-0, as faxed by the

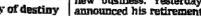
with the Guinness Book of

The company of 25 were treated to salmon en croute league secretary to the Press with a haddock and water-Association. So Poole are at home to Bashley tomorrow



quickly got the hang of his





new business. Yesterday he



national champion Peter | than he used to. He also | showed composure - not previously his strong suit - while Walker grew fretful and argumentative.

French flamboyance sends Walker the way of best British hopes Walker struggled to 5-4 in the fourth game, step-ping up his criticism of the refereeing as he did, but

Bonetat surged to 9-5 and 13-6 and won the match with a suitably flamboyant warning after a third-game collision in which he hurt three-wall boast which rolled dead from the nick. his nose, and then saw his He now plays Nicol's surthe opening game. 9-4 lead become 9-10. He Bonetat hit nicks and fought his way back to prise conqueror Paul John-son, who beat his fellow clinging volley-drops with increasing daring, daring, Englishman Tony Hands. The Englishwomen Fiona Geaves and Cassie Jack-

man earned a quarter-final

Walker said something to earn a code-of-conduct

16 Why punters back cart horses, page 13 Match of many a day, page 14

Rugby loses patience, page 13 Two more join select band, page 15

portsGuardian

NEW RESEARCH QUESTIONS HYPED HEALTH SUPPLEMENT

Olympic warning on wonder fuel

Athletes risk kidney damage

ncan Mackay

keted as the legal, safe alter-native to anabolic steroids, is not as effective as claimed and may be harmful, doctors at the British Olympic Associ-

ation have warned. The BOA's Medical Com-mission, which has conducted extensive research over four years, yesterday said that, if taken in too large quantities, creatine may lead to kidney damage. The commission has refused to endorse or encourage the use of creatine supple-ments. "The effects are un-quantifiable but many natural substances, taken in excess, are dangerous," said Dr Frank Newton, a member of the commission.

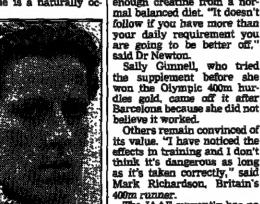
Ever since Linford Christie gave some credit to the product after winning the 1992 Olympic 100 metres it has been the most hyped health supplement on the market. Creatine has also been used by Colin Jackson. Wigan's rugby league players, the British Lions rugby union teams and the carsmen, the

Searle brothers. It is believed that at least half of Britain's Olympic team this year will have used it during training. "It is something you use but you're not sure what is hap "You're not 100 per cent sure what difference it is making. But you don't want to change a winning formula "Even the a winning formula." Even the England cricket team took a supply on their tour to South Africa. application with the elderly and infirm. But research four years ago claimed it showed huge benefits to those in-volved in intensive activity, Some athletes have taken it postponing fatigue, improv-ing speed of recovery and pre-venting post-effort soreness — precisely the same kind of effects anabolic steroids give.

in dosages of up to 30 grams per day — the equivalent of 300lb of steak. Brian Welsby, a biochemist who has been studying the effect of creatine REATINE, the on performance, said yester-food compound day that body builders are al-hailed by athletes ready suffering illness be-cause they have taken too stance and mar-

reports of athletes using cre-atine suffering side-effects. "Everything has its dangers if "We have every indication to our customers that they don't take creatine for more that for sports people who supplement their diet with pure creatine, only about 10 per cent of the creatine is available for use in the musthan two months without giving their body a rest." However, the BOA ques-tions its effectiveness. It says that athletes should get enough creating from a horcles. As a result the other 90 per cent will be rapidly ex-creted. This will put pressure

on the kidneys Creatine is a naturally oc-



follow if you have more than your daily requirement you are going to be better off." said Dr Newton. Saily Ginnell, who tried the supplement before she won the Olympic 400m hur-dies gold, came off it after Barcelona because she did not believe it worked. Others remain convinced of its value. "I have noticed the effects in training and I don't think it's dangerous as long as it's taken correctly," said Mark Richardson, Britain's

The country's biggest sup-plier, Maximuscle UK, said yesterday that it had no

400m runner The IAAF currently has no plans to add creatine to its prohibited list of substances.

Hall hits out at Keegan critics

g of Tyne

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Republic

Inside

Friday April 5 1996

N EWCASTLE's chair-man Sir John Hall yesterday told critics of Kevin Keegan to back the manager or "stay away" from the rest of the club's run-in to the championship. Sir John defended Kee-gan, who insisted after Newcastle's last-minute de-feat at Liverpool on Wednesday that he will not change his attacking pol-icy, and at the same time attacked the growing number of disgruntled fans con-demning Keegan's decisions. Many claim that the £7.5 million Colombian

Cynthia Bateman

arrival has unhalanced a winning team. Newcastle's chairman has no sympathy for the whingers. "Stay away if you don't want to back Kevin," he said. "I've got no time for the moaners and I have been appalled at

striker Faustino Asprilla's

the criticism. "The vast majority of our fans are truly magnificent but we don't want the knockers at St James' Park when we play Qucens Park Rangers on Saturday. "Eevin has said he would

rather quit than play any differently. Well, he knows what he's doing. He has got us where we are. He has made Newcastle one of the top teams and the club has come a long way in a short time.

"The game at Liverpool was probably the best match anyone has seen in years. To lose to a last-minute goal was incredibly cruel. It has given the edge to Manchester United. But look where we have been all season playing Kevin's way. The players must be drained and they need 100 per cent backing to lift them again.

Keegan said he did not feel as disappointed with the dramatic defeat at Anfield as "perhaps I should." explaining: "Every player

tures of strychnine, caf-feine, alcohol and egg-white were in vogue. Creatine is just the latest in a long line of supposedly tory. Various "natural" foods, vitamin concoctions, amino acids, protein substi-tures and energy drinks in a long line of supposedly performance enhancing subless dangerous

Gunnell ... experimented

have become huge sellers. Bro

than strychnine

Tastier than

ass's hoof.

FOR centuries athletes have been seeking an edge in performance, writes Duncan Mackay. A favourite brew taken up by competitors in the ancient Olympics was said to have been the hooves of an Abyssinian ass, ground up, boiled in oil and flavoured with rose hips and rose petals. Around the turn of the last century, bizarre mix-

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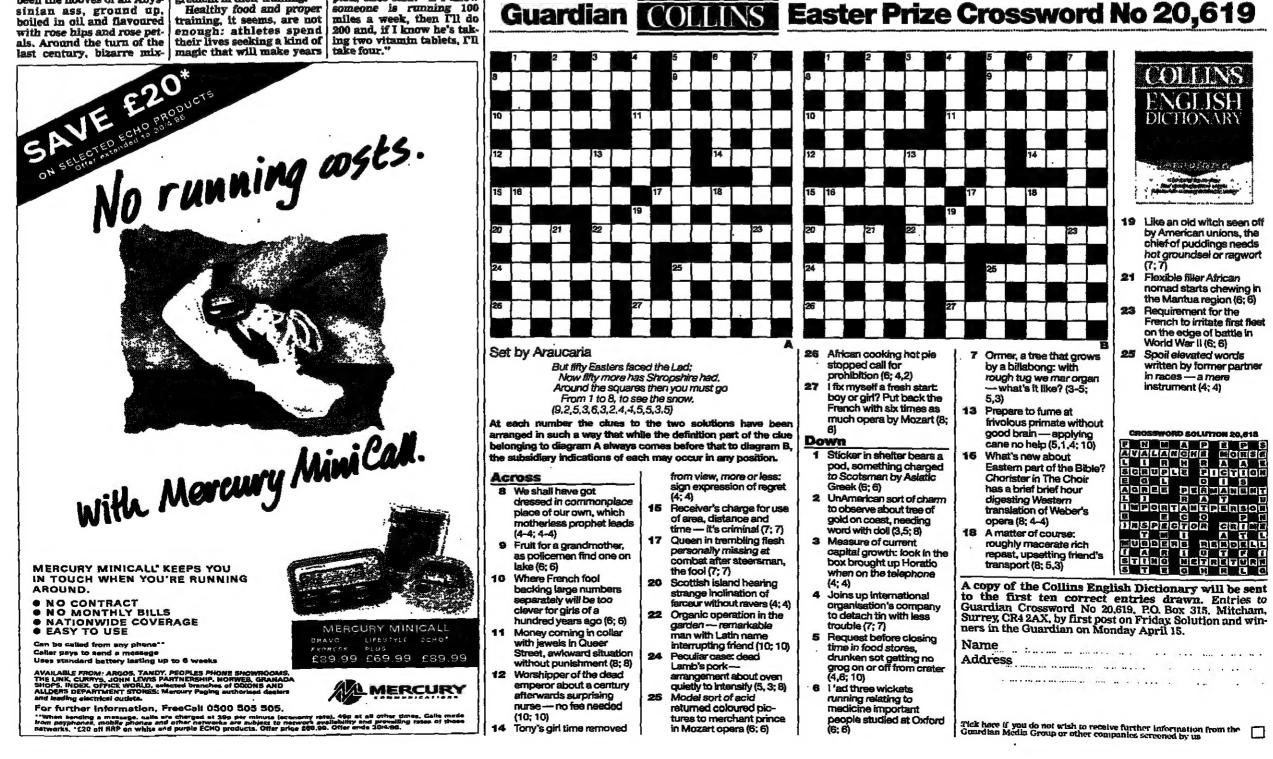
of salt tablets, ginseng, royal jelly and bee pollen. The Drugs Hotline at the Sports Benn, during the build-up to their recent world-title fights, admitted to taking Council regularly fields calls from athletes who up to 150 vitamin pills each day. It is the eternal story want to know if they can that no one likes to conced safely use new products anything to rivals. Frank Shorter, the 1972 available by mail order that promise to be the missing in-Olympic marathon chamgredient in their training. Healthy food and proper pion, once said: "If I know someone is running 100



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